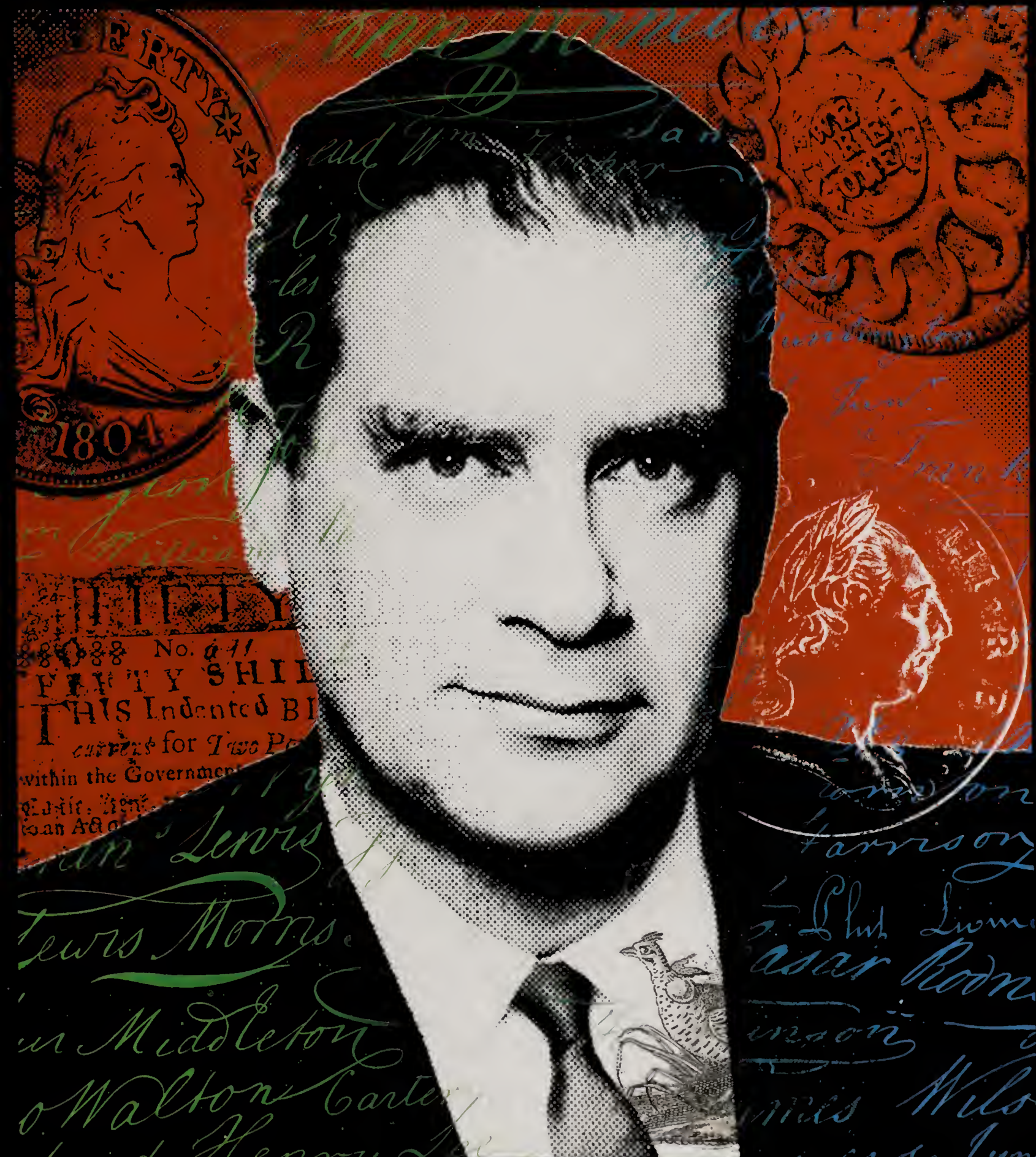


2011  
ISSUE 2





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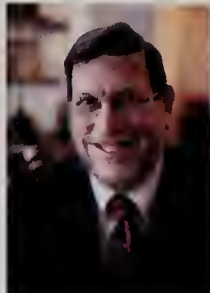
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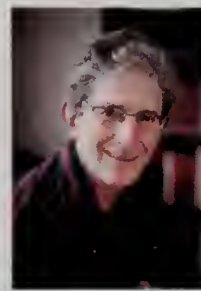
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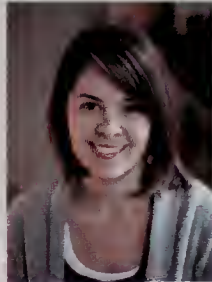
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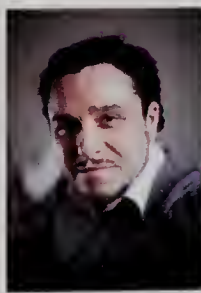
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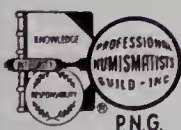
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China. Auction 180

Huang Tung, 1908–1911. 1 Dollar n.d. (1911), Tientsin. Pattern with "GIORGI". Estimate: € 10,000. Price realized: € 460,000.



Russian Empire. Auction 135

Alexander I., 1801–1825. Gold medal of 48 Ducats, 1814, by tsarina M. Feodorovna for Alexander I.

Estimate: € 30,000. Price realized: € 220,000.



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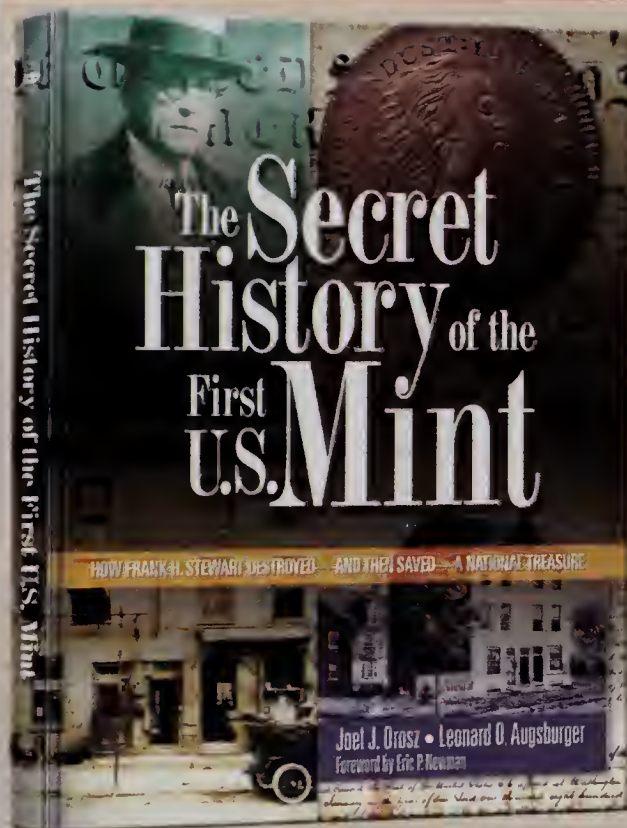
Roman Empire. Auction 158

Valens, 364–378. Medaillon 375/378, Rome. Probably unique.

Estimate: € 200,000. Price realized: € 360,000.

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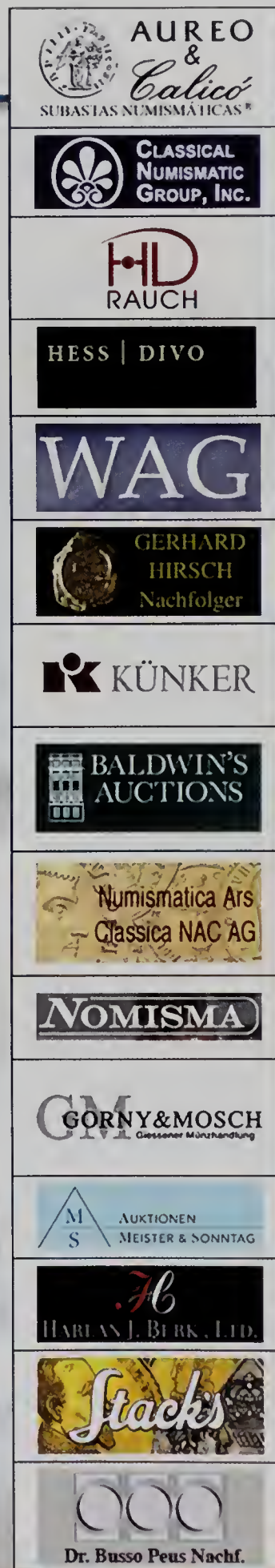
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# ANS MAGAZINE

## 2011

Volume 10, Issue 2

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# From the Executive Director

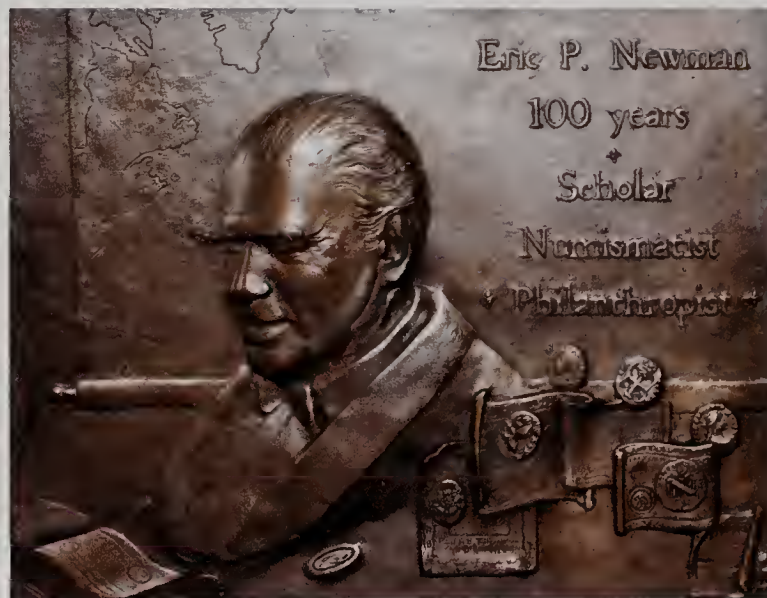
## Ute Wartenberg Kagan

Dear Members and Friends,

On 25 May 2011, Eric P. Newman, America's foremost numismatist, collector, and scholar is celebrating his 100th birthday. This issue of the ANS Magazine is dedicated to Eric, whose extraordinary achievements as a numismatist and philanthropist are discussed in an article by our curator Robert Hoge. Our photographer Alan Roche has created a special image for the cover, which is based on a photo from 1966. To this day, Eric is in frequent contact with ANS staff on various issues that he is researching. He is always happy to share his wide knowledge or assist with all sorts of questions. It is this part of his character which has made him one of the most beloved figures in our field. It is of course very well known how influential Eric Newman's research in the field of American numismatics has been. It was therefore of interest that no full listing of Eric Newman's published works existed. Robert Hoge, assisted by Kenneth Bressett, put together the listing in this magazine. Few people know how much Eric Newman has furthered numismatic scholarship and teaching of all fields. The ANS summer graduate program is now in its 57th year and nowadays it would not be possible without Eric Newman's generous endowment gift. Another area of considerable impact on Eric's part is the Islamic area: in the early 1970s Eric purchased Robert W. Morris collection for the cabinet, which contained over 3,400 coins.

In recognition of his numerous achievements, the American Numismatic Society has decided to issue a medal in honor of Eric's 100th birthday. At a ceremony in New York, ANS Chairman Kenneth Edlow will be presenting a framed portrait plaque (seen here) to the centenarian. This square relief by the artist Amy Kann is part of a project which the ANS has been planning for some time to mark the occasion of Eric Newman's birthday. It will reflect Eric's many interest and passions. A limited edition of cast bronze medals will be available later this year.

When I began writing this letter, I was convinced that Eric was by now our oldest member. But I was proven wrong. Thanks are due to our Huntington Medalist François de Callatay for uncovering the ANS's oldest member: Leon Lacroix, a Corresponding Member from



Belgium, turned 101 last November and is probably our oldest member. Dr. Lacroix is a well-known scholar of ancient Greek coins, whose work on statues on ancient Greek coins is still a standard work.

What makes the ANS different from all other coin cabinets is the fact that we are also a society. I have daily contacts with our members, who telephone, email or write with ideas and comments. Without members our Society would still have a great collection and library, but it would not be as lively or indeed as well supported. It is therefore a great pleasure to be able to congratulate Eric Newman, Trustee Emeritus, Benefactor, scholar, member and friend on his 100th birthday.

In closing, I would like to let you know that I shall be going on leave as of 1 July for six months to work on a book on Thessalian coinage, which I began very many years ago as a PhD thesis in Germany. I am going to spend some time in Berlin at the coin cabinet, and I hope to return with new energy.

Yours truly,

Ute Wartenberg Kagan  
Executive Director, ANS





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## Studies on Money in Early America



The American Numismatic Society  
New York 1976

## THE EARLY PAPER MONEY OF AMERICA

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NUMISMATIC NOTES AND MONOGRAPHS  
No. 135

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By ERIC P. NEWMAN



THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY  
BROADWAY AT 156TH STREET, NEW YORK  
1956

NUMISMATIC NOTES AND MONOGRAPHS  
No. 142

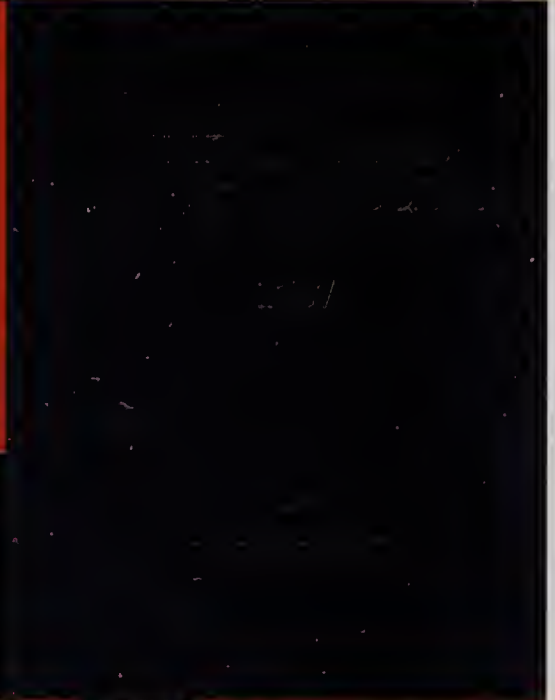
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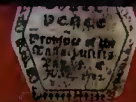
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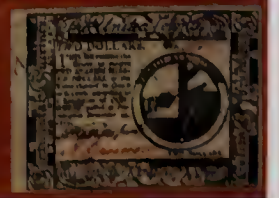
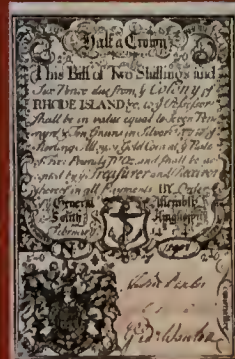
## THE FANTASTIC 1804 DOLLAR

By  
ERIC P. NEWMAN  
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## The Early Paper Money of America

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*Facing page:  
Eric P. Newman surrounded by a  
sampling of his prolific publications*

# NUMISMATIC PUBLICATIONS of ERIC P. NEWMAN: A Salute to a Centenarian

*Robert Wilson Hoge*

Eric Pfeiffer Newman is so well known in the field of Numismatic Americana that, for a review of his publications and achievements, there is scarcely any need to introduce him. As he completes the lofty milestone of one hundred years, a tribute to Eric through a survey of his work seems a fitting salute. He was 92 when I wrote “A Collector Profile” (in which I discussed Eric’s background, education and professional achievements as well as salient features of his career in numismatics) about him for the *ANS Magazine* in 2003, and he was already in his seventies when I first had the pleasure of getting to know him. He was in fact already a very prominent and respected numismatic authority when I was born! It is fair to say that I have admired Eric immensely for as long as I have known of him.

Eric and his wife Evelyn are humanitarians dedicated to the betterment of the world, promoting medical research, wildlife conservation and international understanding. Accomplished world travelers (Eric is a member of the Explorers Club), they are benevolent and industrious workers for these causes as well as the field of numismatics. Eric’s intellectual curiosity extends well beyond coins and currency alone, which may explain and underscore his quest for historical truths. He has always been a devoted family man, and his heart is so large that he has essentially “adopted” the numismatic confraternity.

The American Numismatic Society has been a major beneficiary of Eric’s great generosity. Joining the Society in 1944, Eric was named a fellow in 1950; he became a Life Associate member in 1964, and was named Honorary Life Fellow in 1994. Eric served on the ANS Council (Board of Trustees) from 1962 to 2003, when he was

named Honorary Trustee. He received the Society’s highest honor, the Huntington medal, in 1978. From the early 1990s, when the sad details were uncovered, he has been in charge of reclaiming the dozens of rare U.S. large cent pieces stolen by Dr. William Sheldon, circa 1949; he has been successfully instrumental in obtaining the return of most of these. Until 2008, Eric also served on the ANS Huntington Medal Award Committee. Always a leading proponent of education, for nearly every year between 1969 and 1999, Eric participated as a lecturer in the ANS’s summer seminar. In 1981, he also took responsibility for supporting the program financially, providing a yearly grant of \$10,000; in 1996-99, he fully endowed it. Without his generous support, the seminar’s survival would have been problematic. Fittingly, the program has been named in his honor: the *Eric P. Newman Graduate Summer Seminar*.

Very few people realize that Eric is one of the single greatest benefactors of the ANS’s marvelous Islamic coins cabinet. With the intention of donating it to the Society, he purchased the extensive collections of the micro-palaeontologist Robert W. Morris, who for over twenty years was employed in the Middle East by the Arabian-American Oil Company (Aramco). Knowledgeably seeking Medieval Islamic coins wherever he went in his wide-ranging travels for the petroleum industry, Morris amassed a wonderful run of early gold dinars, silver dirhams and other pieces. Even though he needed money, Morris wanted to find the ideal home for his treasures and offered them to the Society essentially at cost. This was at a time (1970-71), however, when there were scarcely any ANS purchase funds available. Chief Curator George C. Miles found Eric Newman to





Fig. 1: 'Abbasid Caliphate (temp. Al-Rashid), Khalid, Governor in Egypt. AV dinar [Egypt], A.H. 187 (AD 802-803) (ANS 1971.49.198, gift of Eric P. Newman) 18.3mm.



Fig. 2: Umayyad Caliphate (temp. Al-Walid). AV dinar [Damascus], A.H. 92 (AD 710-711) (ANS 1971.49.286, gift of Eric P. Newman) 19.4mm.



Fig. 3: Great Seljuqs, Tughril Beg. AV dinar, Basra Iraq, A.H. 449 (AD 1057-1058) (ANS 1972.288.110, gift of Eric P. Newman) 24mm.



Fig. 4: Umayyad Caliphate, Arab Sasanian Series, Bishr bin Marwan, Governor in Iraq. AR drachm, Basra, A.H. 75 (AD 694-695) (ANS 1975.270.1, gift of Eric P. Newman) 32mm.

be the Society's "Angel," who bought all of the scientist's coins and presented them to ANS as a series of magnificent gifts, some of which are pictured here (figs. 1-4).

Besides his benefactions, a look at Eric Newman's writings alone could show why I, and so many others, hold him in such high esteem. Eric has become particularly renowned for his analyses not only of early American die varieties but of numismatic imagery, ranging from identifying Franklin's original drawings of the sundial motif and linked circles of the Continental dollar and the Fugio copper to the small engraving of a grouse on a New Jersey banknote that was the first commissioned bird image by John James Audubon. He is acknowledged as an outstanding expert at discovering archival connections! Through seven decades we can follow his career as a researcher. By the 1940s, as the protégé, friend and colleague of the great St. Louis dealer Burdette G. Johnson, Eric had developed an enormous knowledge of the field of numismatics and had acquired a fabulous personal collection, including many celebrated items from the famed accumulation of Col. Edward H. R. Green, such as all five specimens of the 1913 Liberty Head five cent pieces. His 1949 publications "Varieties of the Fugio cent" and "What the adoption of the dollar as a monetary standard eliminated" demonstrate major thrusts of his inquiries for years to come. In these works, subjects to which he would later return, he was the first to tabulate and describe the known dies of the first official United States coins and their pairings as he explored the by-ways of other late eighteenth century monies.

Eric's seminal publications of the 1950s include "The 1776 Continental currency coinage," still the standard classification of this issue; his "First documentary evidence on the American Colonial pewter 1/24th real" (addressed again in 1964, in "The James II 1/24th Real for the American plantations") and "Coinage for colonial Virginia" (to which Eric would also return again to present updated discoveries) both still the standard studies on the die variety classifications of these coinages; and his important "The secret of the Good Samaritan shilling: supplemented with notes on other genuine and counterfeit Massachusetts silver coins," which put to rest that famous spurious fantasy. In "The successful British counterfeiting of American paper money during the American Revolution" and "Poor Richard's mottoes for coins," Eric took steps toward his eventual mastery of the entire field of early American paper money and his fascination with Benjamin Franklin's contributions.

During the 1960s, in addition to major publications once again dealing with the Fugio and Continental Currency series, Massachusetts silver, the Royal coins of Virginia, the origins of early mottoes used and



Franklin's role, the Nova Constellatio and other early issues, Eric moved into some more contentious ground with his researches on the U.S. dollar of 1804, which he conclusively demonstrated to be a back-dated Mint fantasy. When he attempted to demonstrate the falsity of certain gold bars that were "discovered" and promoted by Paul Franklin and John J. Ford, the latter embroiled him in the controversy surrounding those pieces--now known to have been "faked." The 1960s also witnessed the publication of the first edition of *The early paper money of America* his great work that was to become the standard reference in its field to this day.

The decade of the 1970s witnessed continued florescence. Eric's publications touched further upon Benjamin's Franklin's nature printing techniques and other achievements, certain colonial and early confederation period coins and currency, counterfeiters and counterfeiting, and focused upon his favorite coin of all, the unique gold 1792 Washington pattern half dollar, which was personally owned and carried by the first President. In the mid '70s, in connection with the national bicentennial, Eric was especially active with the publishing program of the American Numismatic Society, which had of course already published much of his scholarship. He co-edited the Society's *Studies on money in early America*, to which he was also a major contributing author.

A word must be said of Eric's collaborative efforts with other researchers. He has always unstintingly shared his knowledge and expertise with aspiring colleagues, as the following titles may amply attest:

"Rediscovery of the 1796 Washington President piece," co-authored with George Fuld.

*The fantastic 1804 dollar*, co-authored with Ken Bressett.

"The Philadelphia Highway coin find," co-authored with Peter Gaspar.

*The eagle that is forgotten: Pierre Eugène Du Simitière*, co-authored with Joel Orosz.

*U.S. coin scales and mechanical counterfeit coin detectors*, coauthored with George Mallis.

"Discovered! The First Engraving of an Audubon Bird," co-authored with Robert McCracken Peck.

As a matter of fact, though, Eric's co-authorships only begin to indicate the degree to which he has worked with others. Our friend and colleague Ken Bressett has said "In addition to his extensive published writings, Eric corresponded with fellow numismatists all over the world to respond to queries or help with research."

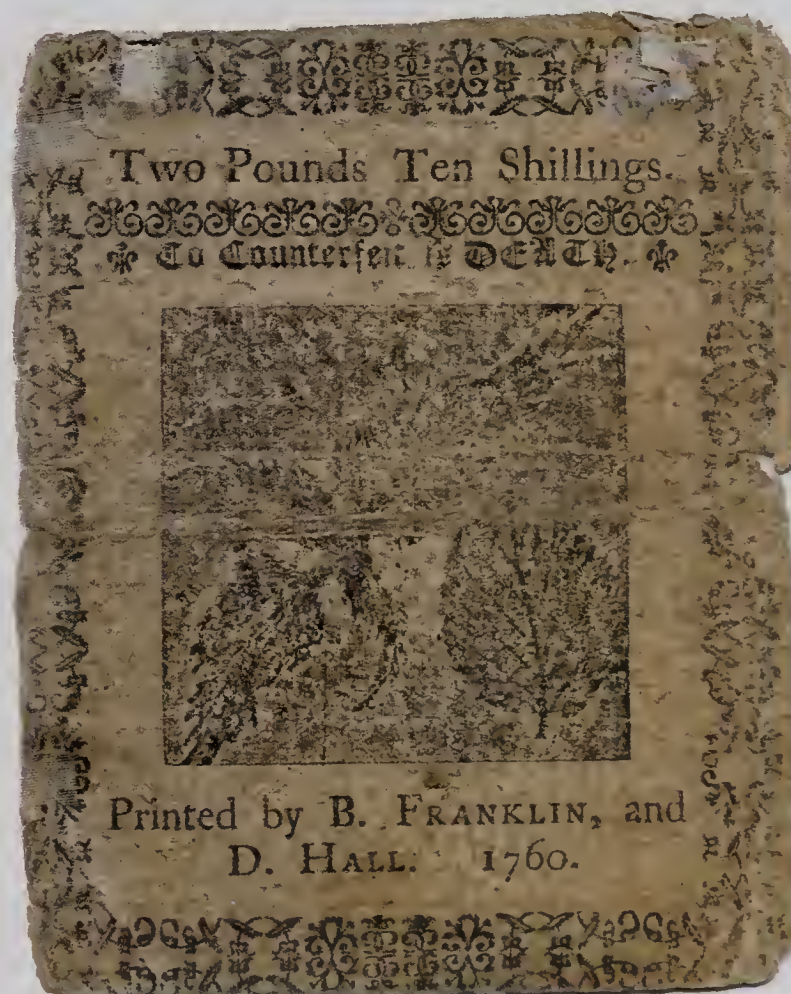


Fig. 5: United States, Delaware, 50 shillings, May 31, 1760, printed by Benjamin Franklin and David Hall, no. 691. (ANS 0000.999.29551, gift of Archer M. Huntington) 71x90mm.





Fig. 6: United States, Virginia, AE ½ penny, London, 1773.  
Newman 27-J (ANS 1934.25.27, purchase) 25mm.



Fig. 7: United States, AE “Fugio” cent, 1787, Jarvis Mint, New Haven.  
Newman 11-B, (ANS 1949.136.10, gift of the Bank of New York and  
the Bank of Fifth Avenue) 28mm.



Fig. 8: United States, Continental Congress, Pewter (Tin)  
“Continental” Dollar, n.m. [Freehold, N.J.?], 1776, with EG FECIT  
within inner ring. Newman 3-D. (ANS 1911.85.7, purchase) 38mm.

He was “equally approachable for the most novice collectors,” and served as a local Boy Scout mentor for their Merit Badge qualification. His goal has always been to foster education, and to this end he created his own educational foundation in 1959. Eric himself has simply said “numismatics has enabled me to help other people do research and writing.”

In addition to Eric’s close association with the ANS, he has been recognized by numerous awards from other quarters, such as the Medal of the Royal Numismatic Society (1991) and Krause Publications’ Burnett Anderson Memorial Award (2001). He has been repeatedly honored by the ANA (American Numismatic Association) with its highest awards, probably receiving more ANA Heath literary prizes than any other author. Eric is also an inductee of the ANA’s Hall of Fame (1986).

Eric has not relented in his pursuit of numismatic information as he has approached his eleventh decade. In the 1980s, for example, he presented “Circulation of pre-U.S. Mint copper coins in nineteenth century America,” “New York City small change bills of 1814-1816,” “Heath’s counterfeit detectors: an extraordinarily successful comedy of errors” and “Unusual printing features on early American paper money” in the *Coinage of the Americas Conference* (COAC) programs of the American Numismatic Society. He wrote on “The earliest money using the dollar as a unit of value” as well as “The counterfeit British style halfpence dated 1785.” The 1990s saw him continuing apace, with the latter in the proceedings of the seventh COAC. His *The early paper money of America* went into its second edition in 1976, its third in 1990, its fourth in 1997 and its fifth in 2008, each adding additional increments of Eric’s superb scholarship.

The bibliography that follows was prepared as a tribute to Eric and his work based upon the entries in the data base catalog of the American Numismatic Society Library. It is organized into three sections, each arranged chronologically: 1) those publications of which Eric P. Newman was the sole author, 2) publications of which he shared authorship with one or more colleagues, and 3) publications about or relating to him, or having to do with subject matter with which he was otherwise involved. Together, these citations paint a panorama of American scholarship, bringing to our awareness a host of small treasures from the past that had been lost to history.



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Fig. 9: Eric P. Newman in the library of the Newman Money Museum, Image by Jeff Starck, Courtesy of Coin World



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Facing page:  
View of Jaffa Bazaar.  
Albumen photograph by Felix Bonfils, 1894.

# COINS OF THE HOLY LAND: The Collection of Abraham D. and Marian Scheuer Sofaer

*David Hendin*

When I first met Abraham Sofaer around 1980 I had no idea how long our friendship would last, or how interesting it would become. We first met one day when I was visiting the Jewish Museum in New York. Museum chairman Richard J. Scheuer, also Sofaer's father-in-law, walked nearby. Scheuer spotted me, called me over, and introduced me to Abe. At the time, Sofaer had expressed an interest in ancient Jewish coins, and Scheuer wanted us to know each other because of that common interest. (fig. 1)

At the time, I was chairman of the Jewish Museum's numismatic committee and I was working with the late Ya'akov Meshorer in creating and setting up an exhibit of ancient biblical coins called *Coins Reveal*.

I had no inkling that Sofaer would spend more than 30 years building the best private collection of coins of the ancient Holy Land ever assembled. He and his wife Marian last year donated to the ANS his remarkable collection of coins of Samaria (more than 260 coins), the Jewish War (55 coins), and the Bar Kokhba Revolt (171 coins). These additions to the ANS cabinet place the ANS holdings in these areas among the best in the world alongside the British Museum, London; the Israel Museum, Jerusalem; the Hermitage, St. Petersburg; and the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris. The Sofaers have also donated another portion of the

collection to the Israel Museum, Jerusalem and plan to donate more of the collection to these two institutions in the coming years.

Sofaer and I have remained in regular contact since we first met, and it was with great pleasure that I recently found myself as curator (together with ANS Executive Director Ute Wartenberg Kagan and Collections Manager Elena Stolyarik) of an exhibit of some of this remarkable collection that the ANS has created for display at the New York Federal Reserve Bank Museum from May 2011 through the end of December 2011.

The exhibit is called *Cultural Change: Coins of the Holy Land*. With seven large display cases containing more than 300 coins, images (including some of the remarkable photographs of Felix Bonfils discussed by ANS librarian Elizabeth Hahn in the next issue of the ANS Magazine), and related objects, it is among the largest exhibits of ancient coins from the Holy Land ever launched. By comparison the current elegant coin room at the Israel Museum displays 54 coins and the Jewish Museum's *Coins Reveal* exhibit in 1983 contained around 200 coins, but only around half of them were ancient. The current display at the British Museum consists only of coins of the Jewish War and Bar Kokhba Revolt. More important than size, however,



is that the focus of this exhibit, like Sofaer's stellar collection, is multicultural.

Sofaer is a former Federal District Judge of the Southern District of New York. He was Legal Adviser to the U.S. State Department under Secretaries of State George P. Shultz and James A. Baker, III. He is currently the George P. Shultz Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University.

Sofaer's passion for these coins stems from his interest in the Holy Land, both ancient and modern. In the introduction to the book cataloging his collection, to be published by the ANS at the end of the year, Sofaer mentions some of his high-level involvement, as well as a political comment: "I was privileged as the U.S. State Department Legal Adviser to have served as principal negotiator of the agreement between Egypt and Israel that settled their boundary at Taba. Peace agreements must be achieved between Israel and all of its neighboring people."

During more than three decades assembling his collection, Sofaer carefully acquired a multi-cultural representation of coins that includes ancient Jewish coins, Christian coins of the Byzantine and Crusader Periods, and Islamic coins minted in the area. The scope of the collection ranges from the fifth century B.C.E. to the 13th century C.E. and includes some of the greatest rarities struck in Jerusalem and throughout the region.

Reflecting on his collection, Sofaer notes that "These coins represent a geographic area that is unique in



*Fig. 1: Joan Scheuer, Marian Scheuer Sofaer, Abraham Sofaer, Richard J. Scheuer in 2008, Photo credit Rafi Magnes.*





*Fig. 2: A 1980 meeting of the Abu Salah Club at the home of David Hendin  
Back Row: William Stern, Leo Mildenberg, Herb Kreindler, Ya'akov Meshorer  
Front Row: Abraham Sofaer, David Hendin, Robert Schonwalter*

the totality of its cultural and ideological variety and significance. The Holy Land has been fought over by various empires for some 3,000 years. The Holy Land has almost always been a province of one of the area's major empires, since about the sixth century B.C.E., when coins were first minted there, until the State of Israel was declared. But it has been a province rich in human drama, social and political upheaval, cultural and religious diversity, commerce, and creativity. Consequently, while lacking the military, political, artistic, and economic dominance of the empires which controlled it, Holy Land numismatics is intellectually and artistically rewarding."

Sofaer collected coins on a personal level, becoming close friends with key numismatists in Israel such as Ya'akov Meshorer, principal author of the book on Sofaer's collection, and Shraga Qedar, co-author with Meshorer of two volumes on Samaritan coinage. The donations of Sofaer's collections to both the ANS and the Israel Museum were made in Meshorer's memory. Meshorer, who died in 2004, was recipient of the ANS Huntington Medal in 2001. In addition to academics and curators, Sofaer befriended many of Israel's licensed coin dealers, as well as many collectors. In his introduction to the book of his collection, Sofaer talks about some of these colorful individuals such as Meir

Rosenberger, "a tailor who, with very little money, painstakingly put together a huge collection of city coins, which he published in four volumes. He was an avid and knowledgeable collector, and a gentle and intelligent man, whom everyone liked and admired." Sofaer also recalls a favorite dealer, George Momjian, who had a shop near the Muristan in Jerusalem's Old City for decades. "No one took the rituals of civility more seriously than this Armenian gentleman. Anyone who lacked the patience and good taste to appreciate Momjian's company might never see any of his coins, and certainly not his best. I spent hours with him, playing backgammon, drinking coffee, and eating meals delivered from a local restaurant. During these visits, he would suddenly get up and rummage through drawers and packages to find some interesting coins to show me. Unlike other dealers, Momjian never charged inflated prices, and virtually never reduced them. One bargained with him during the verbal sparring that preceded any offer to buy or sell, by making comments aimed at pushing up or down the item's value." Sofaer, the professional State Department negotiator, further observes that "This is a subtle form of negotiation, in which the most knowledgeable do best, which gave Momjian the advantage. His first son was named Salah, so, as is customary in the Middle East, he was called Abu Salah (Father of Salah).



Fig. 3: Abu Salah Club membership button, c. 1980. David Hendin collection.



An inner circle of aficionados formed what we called the Abu Salah Club. Someone made up buttons, which we continued to wear when we got together, even long after he died and the shop was sold.” (fig. 2)

Sofaer’s collection contains broad ranges of coins that reflect the diversity of history and political control of the ancient Holy Land from its earliest coins to the Crusader Period.

*Cultural Change: Coins of the Holy Land* consists of seven large cases of coins, several graphic images, and a few objects from the ANS Cabinet and a private collection. But the vast majority of the coins on display in this exhibit were collected by Sofaer during his many visits to Israel over more than three decades. The exhibit reflects what Sofaer describes as a “cultural dimension.” (fig. 4)

“While I started out primarily interested in Jewish coins, I soon realized that the Holy Land presented an opportunity to collect coins minted in a single small area, by no fewer than ten civilizations: Persians; Greeks; Hebrews; Samaritans; Nabataeans, Romans; Byzantines; Arabs; Crusaders; and Israelis. Vast differences exist, moreover, even among the Jewish coins minted in the area; some are very Hebrew, with no images of people or gods, while others bear the portraits of emperors and pagan gods. The coins minted in the area reflect the long history of Jews in the Holy land, but also the long, multi-cultural, historical parade of other peoples. The Holy Land is important to many peoples, in addition to the Jews; and every effort by one cultural group to dominate the area to the exclusion of others eventually failed. A stable future for the Holy Land requires a commitment by all groups in the area to maintaining multi-cultural and tolerant regimes.”

Thus as the ANS curators began to conceptualize the *Cultural Change: Coins of the Holy Land* exhibit for the New York Federal Reserve Bank we focused on Sofaer’s vision of toleration and multi-culturalism. The best way to explain our approach is to briefly describe the seven sections of the exhibit (fig. 5):

**1. Christian and Jewish Symbols: Cross, Chi-Rho, and Menorah.** Contained in this display is Sofaer’s example of the famous and rare menorah coin of the last Hasmonean king, Mattathias Antigonus (40-37 B.C.E.). Fewer than 25 examples of this coin are known to exist, and Sofaer’s is among the best preserved (fig. 6). It depicts the golden menorah from the Jerusalem Temple, along with another sacred object, the Showbread Table. It was forbidden to duplicate



Fig. 4: Hon. Abraham D. Sofaer addresses attendees at the *Cultural Change* Exhibition Opening Reception



Fig. 5: *Cultural Change: Coins of the Holy Land* Exhibition Opening Reception



religious objects from the Temple, but Antigonus deliberately used their imagery as a propaganda tool to rally the Jewish people to more vigorously protect the sanctity of the Temple and its High Priest against Herod and his Roman supporters. The latter, nevertheless, eventually won.

Constantine the Great (307-337 C.E.) was the first Roman emperor to use a Christian symbol on coins. On October 28, 312 C.E. Constantine fought against his rebellious co-Emperor Maxentius at the Milvian Bridge outside of Rome. Prior to the battle Constantine had a dream in which he saw a cross of light above the sun with the Greek words that translated into Latin as IN HOC SIGNO VINCES or “In this sign, you will conquer.” The sign was described as the Greek letters Chi (X) and Rho (P) superimposed on each other. Constantine ordered this sign to be inscribed on the helmets and shields of his soldiers, and he won the battle. He believed his success was due to divine protection, and he converted to Christianity. The chi-rho symbol, also called a Christogram, first appeared on a coin of Constantine (fig. 7). Later, Theodosius I (379-385 C.E.) used the symbol of the cross on coins for the first time. Of course, this cross corresponded to the cross upon which Jesus was crucified by the Romans on the hill of Golgatha in Jerusalem. Quickly the cross became the pre-eminent symbol of Christianity.

This display also contains other ancient objects showing the menorah, chi-rho and cross, including oil lamps, seals, amulets, and large crosses.

**2-3. Jewish History on Coins** is featured in two cabinets. The coins struck in the ancient Holy Land between the fourth century B.C.E. and the second century C.E., provide a primary source of information about the history, heritage, and emerging culture of the Judeo-Christian tradition. This display contains coins of the Hasmonean (Maccabean) and Herodian kings, the procurators of Judaea under Rome, and a remarkable collection of coins of the Jewish War and the Bar Kokhba revolt. Among the many wonderful coins here one may see the best preserved example of a silver half-shekel from the fourth year of the Jewish War, 68/69 C.E. It is one of fewer than ten known examples (fig. 8). The Jerusalem Temple is displayed on the silver sela'im (tetradrachms) of the Bar Kokhba Revolt, which took place only 62 years after the Temple was destroyed, so the images may well have been created by people who saw the Temple or contemporary drawings of it.

**4. The Coins Jesus Knew.** There is no doubt that the coins of his time can help us to better reconstruct



Fig. 6: Mattathias Antigonus, 40 – 37 B.C.E. Bronze prutah with showbread table of the Temple and the paleo-Hebrew “Mattathias the High Priest,” and the Temple Menorah with Greek “King Antigonus.” ANS Collection, Gift of Abraham Sofaer. (Sofaer Hasmonean 446.)



Fig. 7: Constantine I, 307 – 337 C.E. Bronze, this is the first coin depicting the Chi-Rho Symbol. ANS Collection.

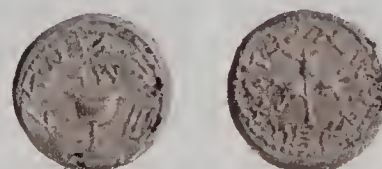


Fig. 8: Jewish War. Silver half-shekel, year 4 showing chalice and paleo-Hebrew “Shekel of Israel,” “four” above chalice and stem or staff with 3 pomegranates and “Jerusalem the Holy” in paleo-Hebrew. Struck 69/70 C.E. ANS Collection, Gift of Abraham Sofaer. (Sofaer Jewish War 38) (ANS 1886.11.1, gift of H.W. Haynes)

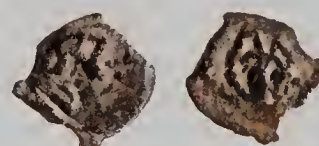


Fig. 9: Herod I, 40 – 4 B.C.E. Bronze half-prutah with tripod table and grapes on vine branch. ANS Collection, Gift of Abraham Sofaer. (Sofaer Herodian 27)





Fig. 10: Herod I, 40 – 4 B.C.E. Bronze half-prutah with cornucopia and Greek “of King Herod” and eagle. ANS Collection, Gift of Abraham Sofaer. (Sofaer Herod 56)



Fig. 11: Herod Antipas, 4 B.C.E. – 39 C.E. Bronze full unit with reed and “of Herod, tetrarch” and “Tiberias” in a wreath. Struck 19/20 C.E. ANS Collection, Gift of Abraham Sofaer. (Sofaer Herod Antipas 87)



Fig. 12: Herod Antipas, 4 B.C.E. – 39 C.E. Bronze full unit with palm tree and “Herod, tetrarch” and the name of Caligula in wreath. Struck 39 C.E. ANS Collection, Gift of Abraham Sofaer. (Sofaer Herod Antipas 110)



Fig. 13: Aristobulus King of Armenia Minor. Bronze with busts of Aristobulus I and Salome, their names in Greek. Struck 56/57 C.E. ANS Collection, Gift of Abraham Sofaer. (Sofaer Aristobulus 170)



Fig. 14: Herod Philip, 4 B.C.E. – 37 C.E. Bronze full unit with portrait of Augustus with his name in Greek and portrait of Philip with his name in Greek. Struck 2/1 C.E. ANS Collection, Gift of Abraham Sofaer. (Sofaer Philip 117)

some portions of the world in which Jesus lived. According to the Gospels, Jesus was well aware of the importance of money, whether coins or other forms of currency. During Jesus’ lifetime, bronze coins of various denominations were manufactured in the Galilee, Judaea, and Samaria, and many silver coins circulated in these areas even though none were manufactured there during this period. It follows that as a man widely traveled in these lands, Jesus was familiar with the use of money, including coined money in both large and small transactions. This exhibit displays Tyre shekels and half shekels, which were mandated for use as the annual Temple tribute, and probably made up the 30 pieces of silver paid to Judas for betraying Jesus (Matthew 26: 14-16). Also featured are coins of all of the rulers of the Holy Land from the time of the birth of Jesus during the reign of Herod I (figs. 9-10) through the lives of his disciples. These include coins of Herod Antipas (figs. 11-12), who Jesus called “that fox” (Luke 13:32); Herod Archelaus (Matthew 2:22); Aristobulus King of Armenia with an excessively rare portrait of Salome, who asked for the head of John the Baptist after her dance pleased Antipas (fig. 13) (Mark 6: 22 – 25); Philip (fig. 14-15) (Luke 3:1); Agrippa I (fig. 16-17) (Acts 12: 1-2); and procurators such as Pontius Pilate (see Matthew 27:2).

**5. Arabs in the Holy Land.** The Nabataeans were ancient Arabs of the southern Levant and Northern Arabia, who became wealthy by controlling supplies of frankincense and bitumen. Matthew 2:11 notes that three precious gifts were given by magi on the birth of Jesus, “...they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.” It is thus sometimes assumed that a Nabataean king or prince was one of the magi, but there is no confirmation in any sources.

After the last Nabataean king, Rabbel II (fig. 18), whose rule ended in 105 C.E., there were no Arab coins minted in the ancient Holy Land until those struck under the Umayyad Caliphate in the 7th century C.E. The display shows a sampling of Sofaer’s diverse collection of Umayyad (fig. 19), Abassid (fig. 20), Ikhshidid (fig. 21), Qarmatian (fig. 22), and Fatimid Dynasty (fig. 23) coins, all struck at various mints of the Holy Land including Jerusalem, Acre, Joppa, Tiberias, Ascalon, Saffuriyya, and Gaza among others.

**6. Gods, Goddesses, and Monuments on the City Coins.** Even before the first Maccabean coins, important cities in ancient Israel struck coins. Many more were issued after Augustus, when Roman authorities gave minting privileges to certain cities. These powers were granted to promote both loyalty to Rome and commerce in the area. The city coins also developed



as a means of local economic, political, and cultural expression. Sofaer's city coins are among the jewels in his remarkable collection, and the book of his collection, being published soon by the ANS, will be the reference of choice for city coins of the Holy Land for many decades, if not generations.

This exhibit highlights around 50 city coins from the Sofaer Collection, which include a remarkable coin of Akko struck under Salonina, wife of Gallienus (253 – 268 C.E.), showing Zeus Heliopolites in a shrine, surrounded by a Zodiac wheel, containing the various signs of the Zodaic (fig. 24). Persius holding the head of Medusa appears on a rare coin of Joppa (fig. 25). Among Sofaer's most amazing city coins is a bronze of Neapolis struck under Philip I and Philip II (244 – 249 C.E.), which depicts the two phases of the binding of Isaac, with Abraham offering his bound son to a local god combining Jehovah and Zeus (fig. 26). A large architectural bronze of Capitolias in the Decapolis, struck under Marcus Aurelius (161 – 180 C.E.) shows the facade of an ornate temple with four columns, a central arch between two fortified towers, and a bastion in the background, with Zeus seated within (fig. 27).

**7. Coins of Jerusalem.** The final display features coins of Jerusalem, which has been a city of importance since the earliest days of recorded history. Mints located in Jerusalem produced coins beginning during the Persian Period in the mid-fourth century B.C.E. Many of the coins struck in this holy city mention Jerusalem by name—and in the numismatic evidence the city has many names—in paleo-Hebrew, Greek, Latin, and Arabic. Other coins illustrate symbols of the city such as the lily, and still others show some of Jerusalem's most important buildings, including temples, churches, mosques, citadels, and gates. Some of these structures still exist today in modified form; others have been destroyed as each faith and ruling group tried to eliminate the previous cult center in order to establish its own.

Thus we find here coins of the Maccabees and the Jewish War struck in Jerusalem; coins of the Bar Kokhba revolt expressing a longing for Jerusalem; Roman provincial coins celebrating the re-founding of Jerusalem as "Aelia Capitolina" under Hadrian (the first of 16 emperors to order coins struck at the Jerusalem mint); rare Byzantine coins naming Jerusalem; Islamic coins referring to Jerusalem as "Ilya" or "al Kuds;" and Christian Crusader coins depicting the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and Tower of David.

Among the interesting features of many of the coins of the ancient Holy Land is their lack of graven images,



Fig. 15: Herod Philip, 4 B.C.E. – 37 C.E. Small bronze with portrait of Philip and his name in Greek and date in wreath. Struck 33/34 C.E. ANS Collection, Gift of Abraham Sofaer. (Sofaer Philip 146)

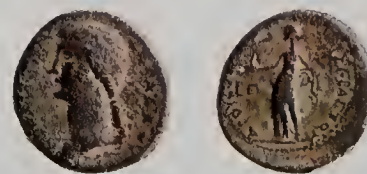


Fig. 16: Agrippa I. Bronze with portrait of Caesonia (wife of Augustus), her name in Greek, and Drusilla (daughter of Augustus) standing and holding small figure of Victory, her name in Greek. Struck 40/41 C.E. ANS Collection, Gift of Abraham Sofaer. (Sofaer Agrippa I 150.)



Fig. 17: Agrippa I. Bronze with portrait of Agrippa I and Greek legend "The Great King Agrippa, friend of Caesar," and Tyche with Greek legend "Caesarea, which is by the port of Sebastos." Struck 43/44 C.E. ANS Collection, Gift of Abraham Sofaer. (Sofaer Agrippa I)



Fig. 18: Rabbel II, 70 – 106 C.E. Silver drachm with portrait of Rabbel II and "Rabbel the king, king of the Nabataeans, year 1" and Shuqailat and "Shuqailat his mother, queen of the Nabataeans." Legends in Nabataean Aramaic. ANS Collection, Gift of Abraham Sofaer. (Sofaer Nabataean 77.)



Fig. 19: Umayyad post-reform bronze follis struck at Tiberias (Tabariyya). Struck 7th century C.E. Sofaer Collection. (Sofaer Tiberias 46)





Fig. 20: Abassid coin of Jerusalem using the name “al-Quds.”  
Struck 832 C.E. Israel Museum Collection, Gift of Abraham Sofaer.  
(Sofaer Aelia 191)



Fig. 21: Ikhshidid silver dirham of Al-Muttaqu lillah struck at  
Tiberias in 942 C.E. Sofaer Collection. (Sofaer Tiberias 65).

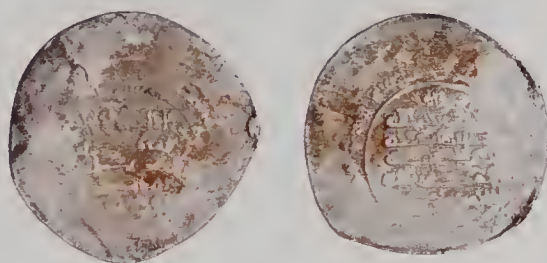


Fig. 22: Qarmatian silver dirham of Al-Hasan struck at Tiberias  
in 969 C.E. Sofaer Collection. (Sofaer Tiberias 67).



Fig. 23: Fatimid gold dinar struck at Akka (Akko) and dated 1094  
C.E. Sofaer Collection. (Sofaer Akko 313)

which is especially relevant for the local Jewish issues as well as the Islamic coins. This similarity in coins is an interesting parallel between Judaism and Islam. In contrast to the coins of the Greeks and Romans, which commonly use portraits and other graven images of creatures or gods, most of the coins struck under Jewish and Islamic rulers in ancient times follow the biblical code prohibiting graven images as stated in Exodus 20:4:

Thou shalt not make unto thee a graven image,  
nor any manner of likeness, of anything that is  
in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath,  
or that is in the water under the earth.

Jewish rulers of the Maccabean and Herodian Dynasties in Judaea issued coins that served their nation’s economy, but also made bold statements regarding their sovereignty while maintaining the understanding of Jewish religious law at the time. Thus, instead of showing the image of a king or a god, the first coins struck by the Maccabean rulers beginning around 130 B.C. carried a paleo-Hebrew inscription in a laurel wreath. The wreath was associated with leadership and royalty in the Hellenistic and Roman worlds. The Maccabees, followed by Herod I, also adopted the cornucopia to signify the abundance of the land; the pomegranate, a symbol of fertility; and the lily, a symbol of their capital, Jerusalem. The anchor, galley, and other symbols were soon added.

The first graven image to appear on a coin struck by a Jewish king was the eagle on a coin of Herod I (fig. 10) (40 – 4 B.C.E.). His son Herod Philip (4 – 34 C.E.), who did not rule in territories with a large Jewish population, was the first Jewish king to have his own portrait appear on his coins (figs. 14-15). Although portrait coins of Herod Philip are extremely rare, Sofaer’s collection contains three of them. Jewish coinage during the revolts against Rome resumed using religious symbols and avoided graven images.

The Islamic coins minted in the Holy Land also avoided using graven images when they were minted beginning in the 7th century C.E. For the most part they used only holy inscriptions and very few images of any kind.

Cultural Change: Coins of the Holy Land, created by curators of the American Numismatic Society with coins from the Sofaer Collection and the ANS Cabinet, will be on display weekdays from 10 am to 4 pm at the New York Federal Reserve Bank at 33 Liberty Street, New York through December 31, 2011.





Fig. 24: Akko-Ptolemais. Salonina, wife of Gallienus (253 – 268 C.E.), bronze showing Zeus Heliopolites in a shrine, surrounded by a Zodiac wheel, containing the various signs of the Zodaic with Latin “Colony of Ptolemais.” Sofaer Collection. (Sofaer Akko 308)



Fig. 25: Joppa. Caracalla (198 – 217 C.E.) bronze coin showing Perseus standing and wearing a Phrygian hat and winged sandals, holding a harpa in his right hand and the head of Medusa in his extended right hand, Greek legend names the city. Sofaer Collection. (Sofaer Joppa 17)



Fig. 26: Neapolis. Philip I and Philip II (247 – 249 C.E.) bronze showing two phases of the binding of Isaac: at the center, Abraham offers his bound son to Zeus-Hypsistos (a Samaritan god who combines Jehovah and Zeus); on the right a ram is offered instead, Mt. Gerizim with its Temple is above, Latin inscription names the city. Sofaer Collection. (Sofaer Neapolis 179).



Fig. 27: Capitolas. Marcus Aurelius (161 – 180 C.E.) bronze showing the façade of a temple of four columns, a central arch between two fortified towers, and a bastion in the background; Zeus is seated within holding a scepter in left hand and extending his right hand, city name and date in Greek. Struck 166/167 C.E. Sofaer Collection (Sofaer Capitolas 1)



# Ancient Coins and the Cultural Property Debate

## Introduction

Rick Witchonke

Ancient coins have been collected and studied for centuries and, until fairly recently, the trade in newly discovered coins was an accepted feature of the hobby. Historically, there was often a close cooperation among dealers, collectors, and scholars who wished to study ancient coins to advance numismatic knowledge. Information about the findspot of coins was often transmitted from the finder to the dealer, and thence to collectors and scholars. And it was often possible to make complete records of newly-discovered intact hoards of ancient coins, which are of crucial importance in establishing the chronologies of many series. Under this arrangement, of course, much information was lost, but much was preserved as well.

Beginning in the 1960's, a number of factors combined to fundamentally change the way the market in ancient coins operated. First, sensitive metal detectors became widely available, and these were increasingly used to search for metal antiquities, including coins. Although the use of metal detectors is illegal in many countries, their use has become widespread, and the volume of recently excavated ancient coins available on the market has increased dramatically.

Secondly, countries where ancient coins are found began to more aggressively enforce their national patrimony laws, which claim ownership for the state of all antiquities found in the country, whether on public or private land. This increased vigilance drove the illicit trade in ancient coins underground, and finders and dealers were no longer willing to pass along information on where coins had been found, since that information could be used to incriminate them. And, as the finders became more sophisticated, they began to break up hoards, or mix them with other coins (including forgeries), before they could be properly recorded. Thus, the bulk of ancient coins available on the market today carry no information about when and where they were found (provenance), or even when and how they were imported into the US.

Third, international efforts were initiated to curb the trade in illicit antiquities, culminating in the 1970 UNESCO Treaty, which was signed by many countries,

including the US. Then, in 1983, the US passed the Convention on Cultural Property Implementation Act (CCPIA), which allowed countries to apply to the US for import restrictions on specific antiquities from that country. At present, under this law, the importation of some ancient coins from Italy, China and Cyprus is prohibited, and restrictions are under consideration on ancient coins from Greece. And, in the 2003 Schultz decision, US courts decided that, under certain conditions, antiquities imported into the US could be considered stolen property under US law, and the importer punished accordingly. These new legal constraints, along with additional measures implemented by other countries and the EU, have increasingly impeded the flow of unprovenanced ancient coins into the numismatic marketplace.

Finally, archeologists, led by the Archeological Institute of America (AIA), have mounted an effective campaign to curtail the trade in unprovenanced antiquities (including coins) and thereby to reduce the attendant loss of important contextual information. Some archeologists believe that the suppression of the illicit trade will also eliminate demand for antiquities, and therefore end illicit excavation. Thus, in the ongoing debate, archeologists are largely aligned with the countries where antiquities are found. They are opposed by dealer and collector groups who wish to maintain the trade in ancient coins. So the current situation is complex and evolving, and it is important for collectors to understand the issues involved.

The ANS has a long tradition of scholarly numismatic research and publication, often based upon the availability of information about the source of ancient coins, and thus supports efforts to preserve contextual information. On the other hand, much of the membership of the ANS consists of coin collectors and dealers, who have a strong interest in preserving the right to responsibly collect ancient coins. And the bulk of the ANS' wonderful cabinet of coins is the result of generous donations from member collectors. Thus, the ANS seeks a balance wherein the licit trade in ancient coins can be maintained, while preserving contextual information. So, in the interest of informing its membership (and the public at large) on the issues involved, we have inaugurated a series of articles on various



topics relating to ancient numismatics and the cultural property debate.

The first in the series, presented below, is an article explaining the archeologist's perspective, by Dr. Sebastian Heath. Sebastian is a long-time member of the ANS staff who now works with the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World. Moreover, Sebastian has worked as a field archeologist, and serves as the Vice President for Professional Responsibilities at the AIA.

The second article in the series, which will appear in the next issue of the Magazine, will be authored by attorney Peter Tompa, an ANS Board member who often represents the Professional Numismatic Guild, the International Association of Professional Numismatists, and the Ancient Coin Collectors Guild on cultural property issues. Peter's article will outline the perspective of the numismatic trade.

## **Beginning the Dialog: An Archaeologist's Perspective**

**Sebastian Heath**

Somebody has to go first. With that phrase I initiate what I hope will be an ongoing discussion exploring the overlap of archaeology, numismatics and the vigorous debate over the trade in ancient coins. I'm grateful to Ute Wartenberg Kagan for asking me to contribute and I want to stress that I look forward to reading what others will have to say. I will not always agree with them, and I know that not all ANS Magazine readers will agree with me. That's the point. The ANS is an institution that can accommodate differences among its members, especially when it has an opportunity to promote dialog between their differing views.

The only view I represent in this column is my own. That's important because there are quite a few professional personae that I could adopt. I'm a faculty member at the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World at New York University. I hold the elected and unpaid office of Vice-President for Professional Responsibilities at the Archaeological Institute of America. And my title is listed as Research Scientist on the ANS website, a position that I use to collaborate with ANS staff to enable online access to the society's immense resources for numismatic research. If there is a position that I write from now, it's ANS Life Member, and there will be no doubt that I also bring the perspective of a field archaeologist. I've been working in the Mediterranean for over 25 years so I share with a large number of my fellow ANS members an abiding fascination with the material culture of the ancient Greek and Roman worlds. I, of course, don't choose to own that culture personally and I work as an archaeologist to make sure that as much information as possible about all ancient objects is recorded and available to the public, particularly information about find spot.

I don't expect an interest in preserving find spot information to be controversial. All members of the ANS community can appreciate the discovery of a hoard such as that found buried more than a foot underground in Frome, England on April 11, 2010 (figs. 1-3). The vast majority of the 52,503 coins in this hoard are not especially valuable from the perspective of how much money they would fetch in trade. There are over



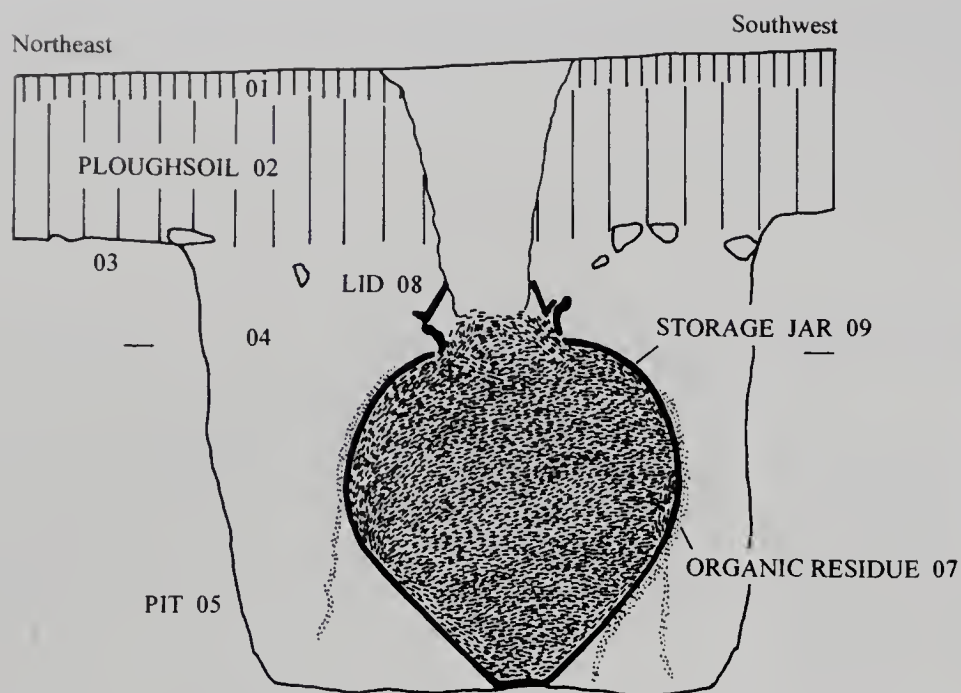


Fig. 1: Diagram of the Frome Hoard excavation (image courtesy of Somerset County Council)

#### EXCAVATED COIN LAYERS

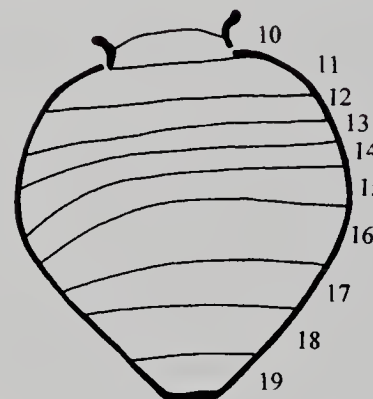


Fig. 2: Excavating the Frome Hoard (image courtesy of Somerset County Council)



Fig. 3: The Frome Hoard (image courtesy of Somerset County Council)





12,000 pieces of the Gallic Emperor Tetricus I (d. AD 274) alone, many of which might sell individually for under \$20.00. Dispersed on eBay or VCoins, two Internet sites that support an active trade in unrecorded coins, this hoard would essentially no longer exist. Any information that it can tell us about economic integration in Northern Europe would be lost. Any discussion of why such a large number of coins was deposited in a single large vessel and carefully buried could never have even begun.

I contrast the success of the recording and subsequent acquisition by a public collection of the Frome Hoard with the following quote from an e-mail that came to me on September 20, 2010 via the e-mail list “Uncleaned Ancient Coins”: “I have received some more uncleaned coins from my friend in England. These are coins he and his mates have found while metal detecting. There are some nice individual uncleaned coins if you want to clean an [sic] quality individual coin and also one group of 20 uncleaned AE-4s.” Limited inquiry suggested that these coins were not registered within the UK’s Portable Antiquities Scheme, which raises the very substantial possibility that they were illegally looted.

I’m not assuming that the coins described in this offer came from a hoard as magnificent as the Frome discovery. But I hope that all ANS members can recognize that buying these coins, and coins from similar offers that appear on a regular basis, is part of sustaining demand that in turn sends searchers out into the fields and so leads to further destruction of knowledge about the ancient world. The coins found by a detectorist and his mates could have been of great cultural importance, now they are only a source of frustration for anyone trying to reconstruct a complete picture of monetization in Roman Britain. That’s not intended as a condemnation of all numismatic trade. But I do think offers of plausibly illegal coins coming from countries such as the United Kingdom, which is praised for its legal market, tell all of us interested in the ancient world that a very substantial problem exists. Indeed, most collectors and dealers whom I speak with in private readily agree with this assessment.

It is because the ongoing looting of coins is a problem that I have chosen to participate in hearings in front of the Cultural Property Advisory Committee (CPAC) in Washington, D.C. as part of the process by which the United States enters into or extends agreements—known as Memoranda of Understanding (MoU)—with other countries to restrict the import of antiquities under threat of illegal excavation. The so-called “MoU process” is complex and like many who have taken part, I would welcome more transparency. But the principle behind my involvement is simple: it is appropriate that our shared public institutions work to balance the commercial interests of dealers, the personal interests of collectors, and the strong-felt interests that I represent as an archaeologist. MoUs have been effective in providing a legal context for intercepting illegally traded antiquities and these successes indicate to me that the US should enter into agreements with more countries. As it stands, coins are now included in MoUs with China, Cyprus, and Italy. This is an important step in allowing the United States to exercise its own sovereignty in the protection of a well-established public interest: the ongoing study of our shared past.

These brief comments can’t stand as a full exploration of all the complex issues. I’m hoping to have started a conversation. Readers may note that I have avoided selective quotation of some of the more extreme opinions that appear on the Internet. I am looking for partners in a reasonable dialog and suspect that I’ll find many of those within the ANS’ wide and thoughtful membership.



# From the Collections Manager New Acquisitions

*By Elena Stolyarik*

During the winter of 2010–11 the ANS received a number of notable donations and also made several purchases. This includes one of the most significant gifts in the ancient field, which the American Numismatic Society has received in decades. In December of last year, ANS Fellow and donor Abraham D. Sofaer and his wife Marian Scheuer Sofaer donated 260 ancient Samaritan coins (fig. 1), 54 coins of the First Jewish Revolt (fig.2) and 170 coins of the Bar Kokhba revolt (fig.3). The ANS has been working with Abraham Sofaer over the last decade to publish his collection of almost 5,000 coins from the Holy Land. The late Yaakov Meshorer, curator at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, had left a manuscript of the catalogue for publication of this magnificent collection. The catalogue will appear later this year.

The Sofaers have donated part of their collection to the ANS - and a second group of Roman provincial coins to the Israel Museum to commemorate this great Israeli numismatist. For its quality and content, the Sofaer collection is unparalleled. The donation of these two sets from the Sofaer collection not only adds substantially to the ANS holdings, but also ensures that the ANS will become the most important center for the study of ancient coins from the Holy Land in the United States. More information about this spectacular donation can be found in David Hendin's article in this volume of the Magazine.

For the Greek department, the ANS purchased two extremely rare and important Thraco-Macedonian 5th century small-denomination silver coins featuring the earliest known numismatic images of primates (monkeys!). This purchase was sponsored by ANS board member Peter Tompa (figs. 4-5). This intriguing coinage appears to originate from Macedonia but virtually nothing is known about its mint or findspot.

From David Vagi our Greek collection also received an interesting object that pays tribute to ancient coins. It is an unusual bronze brooch, the design of which was taken from the famed Euainetos Syracusan dekadrachm of the 4th century BC. Such jewelry pieces were already produced in antiquity, when the facing head motive on the Syracusan coins appeared for the first time. This highly interesting piece serves as one more proof of the prestige of Euainetos and of

the physically and aesthetically notable dekadrachms he was responsible for (fig. 6). Further research and consultation with experts of ancient jewelry is needed to confirm the date of this piece.

Through a donation from ANS member H. Edmund Hohertz we acquired a silver Parthian coin of the 3rd century BC.

In the US department, we received three wonderful Early American pieces from ANS President Roger S. Siboni: an extremely rare 1787 Machin's Mills imitation of a British halfpenny of George III that was lacking from the cabinet (fig.7), a very high grade "Simian style" contemporary circulating counterfeit of a British halfpenny of 1772 (fig. 8), and a spectacularly well-preserved example of the World Hibernia farthing of 1723 (fig. 9). Such wonderful additions to our cabinet help fill gaps in our holdings. It is particularly important to note the outstanding quality of these additions. The crude "Simian" counterfeits derive their name from the unnaturally long arms of the reverse figure of Britannia. The Hibernia farthings were produced by William Wood for circulation in Ireland under patent from King George II. Their light weight and the failure to involve Irish authorities in their production created a storm of controversy in Ireland led by no less a figure than Jonathan Swift. Public outcry forced the termination of the coinage in 1724.

An important purchase for the US department consists of a rare 1788 Machin's Mills Vermont copper, from the Collection of Roy Bonjour (fig.10).

In the US department, we also received three fine Federal pieces: an exceptional beautiful Capped Bust Half Dollar (Breen 4678, ProoflikeMS-64) (fig. 11), an extremely rare (only ten known) 1847 Liberty Seated Half Dime (Breen 3041, Gem Proof-65) (fig. 12), and a fabulously preserved 1864 No motto Liberty Seated Dollar (Breen 5470, Proof 65 SEGS) (fig. 13).

American medals are intriguing items for their historical importance, and the ANS curators keep looking to add to the amazing holdings in this series. A group, included some Betts medals, were recently offered, and we are very pleased to have been able to purchase





Fig.1 (enlarged): Samaria. AR Obol. 4th century B.C.E.  
(ANS 2010.69, gift of Abraham D. & Marian Scheuer Sofaer,  
in Memory of Dr. Yaakov Meshorer) 9.0mm. 0.60g.



Fig. 2: The Jewish War against Rome (66-70 CE). Silver half shekel.  
Jerusalem mint. (ANS 2010.69, gift of Abraham D. & Marian Scheuer  
Sofaer, in Memory of Dr. Yaakov Meshorer) 18.0 mm. 6.56 g.



Fig. 3: The Bar-Kokhba Revolt (132-135 CE) Silver Tetradrachm.  
(ANS 2010.69, gift of Abraham D. & Marian Scheuer Sofaer,  
in Memory of Dr. Yaakov Meshorer) 26.0 mm. 15,05 g

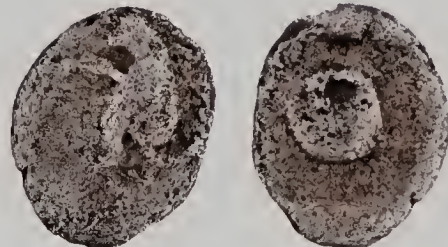


Fig. 4 (enlarged): Thraco-Macedonian Tribes. Uncertain. AR Tetart-  
emorion. Mid 5th century BC. (ANS 2010.68.1, purchase) 5.0mm. 0.19 g



Fig. 5: Thraco-Macedonian Tribes, Uncertain. AR Tetartemorion.  
Mid 5th century BC. (ANS 2010.68.1, purchase) 7.0mm. 0.20 g



Fig. 6: Bronze brooch. The design, taken from the famed Euainetos  
Syracusan dekadrachm of 400-350 BC. (ANS 2011.1.1, gift of David  
Vagi) 46.0 mm.



Fig. 7: United States. Machin's Mills halfpenny of George III. 1787.  
Vlack 20-87C.Rarity-7. About Extremely Fine. (ANS 2010.71.1,  
gift of Roger S. Siboni) 27.0 mm.



Fig. 8: United States. Contemporary imitation halfpenny.  
George III English type Simian style. 1772. About Extremely Fine.  
(ANS 2010.71.2, gift of Roger S. Siboni) 28.0 mm.



Fig. 9: United States. Wood's Hibernia farthing. D:G: REX variant. 1723.  
Breen 169, Nelson 6. Choice Uncirculated, Brown.  
(ANS 2010.71.3, gift of Roger S. Siboni) 21.3 mm.



Fig. 10: United States. 1788 Vermont Copper. Ryder-22, W-2165.  
Rarity-5. VF.(ANS 2010.72.1, purchase) 27.0 mm.





Fig. 11: United States. 1828 Capped Bust Silver Half Dollars. Overton 117, Breen 4678, Prooflike MS-64. (ANS 2011.7.1, gift of Karen Alster) 36.5 mm.



Fig. 12: United States. 1847 Normal Date Liberty Seated Half Dimes. Breen 3041, Valentine 2. Gem Proof-65. (ANS 2011.8.1, gift of Barbara Philips) 15.0 mm.



Fig. 13: United States. 1864 No Motto Liberty Seated Silver Dollars. Breen 5470. Proof-65 SEGS. (ANS 2011.9.1, gift of Dorette Sarachik) 32.0 mm.



Fig. 14: Netherlands. Philip II and Anna of Austria. AR (gilt) medal, n.d. by Jacques Jonghelinck. (1570). Betts 8; Smolderen 74; Armand, I, p. 240, no. 13; Van Loon, I, p. 131, no. II. Cast and chased. (ANS 2011.3.1, purchase) 39.0 mm.



Fig. 15: Netherlands. William IV of Orange-Nassau, Preliminary Celebration of the Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle. AR medal, by NVS. 1748. (ANS 2011.3.2, purchase) 37.5 mm.



Fig. 16: Netherlands. Celebration of the Treaty of Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, fireworks display. AR medal, by Johan Georg Holtzhey. 1749. (ANS 2011.3.5, purchase) 61.0 mm.







Fig. 17: Belgium. *Compagnie Belge Maritime du Congo*, Commemoration of the first voyage of the *Albertville*. AE medal, by P. Wiinants. 1928. (ANS 2011.3.6, purchase) 79.0 mm.



them. Among them is a medal (fig. 14) found near the beginning of C. Wyllys Betts' famous work, *American Colonial History Illustrated by Contemporary Medals*. The obverse of this medal features a bust of Philip II (1527–1598), King of Spain and of the New World. The reverse features a bust of Anna of Austria (1549–1580), the king's niece and also his beloved fourth wife. This medal was struck to commemorate their marriage on November 12, 1570, at Segovia. Philip II was King of Spain from 1556 until 1598; King of Naples from 1554 until 1598; king consort of England, as husband of Mary I, from 1554 to 1558; lord of the Seventeen Provinces from 1556 until 1581, holding various titles for the individual territories, such as duke or count; and King of Portugal and the Algarve as Philip I from 1580. Included in his realm was the vast empire in the Americas, including New Spain and Peru.

Other medals of early American historical importance, which are not included in Betts' publication and were not yet represented in the cabinet, were also acquired by purchase. One of these is a rare unsigned silver medal, *Preliminaries of the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle*, of 1748, with an armored and draped bust of William IV of Orange and a magnificent allegorical composition of a Victory walking above war paraphernalia, holding an anchor and palm branch (fig. 15).

A further excellent addition to the cabinet is the quite rare silver medal *Celebration of the Treaty of Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, Fireworks Display of 1749*, signed by Johann Georg Holtzhey, the prolific Dutch medalist

(fig. 16). In October 1748 a treaty was signed at Aix-la-Chapelle (now Aachen) ending the War of the Austrian Succession. The war started in 1740 over Maria Theresa's claim to inherit the Habsburg territories from her father, Emperor Charles VI. It became an episode in the jockeying for position by European powers that continued throughout the century. Britain's main interest was to gain access to and maintain lucrative trade routes to the Americas that were controlled by France and Spain. The treaty failed to settle matters and skirmishing continued in the early 1750s, finally emerging again into all-out war in 1756. In England the official celebration of the Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle took place on 17 April 1749 in the northern part of St James's Park, now called Green Park. A huge temporary structure was erected for a firework display. The most enduring success of the day was the overture composed by Handel for the celebrations: the *Music for the Royal Fireworks*.

An important example of the Art Deco style is a bronze medal by Ernest Wijnant (1887–1955) commemorating the first voyage of the paquebot *Albertville* to the Belgian Congo in 1928 (fig. 17) and a French silver medal dedicated to the voyage in 1935 of the largest luxury ship of that time—*SS Normandie*. Jean Vernon (1897–1975) commemorates the launching of the famous ocean liner in a supple and decorative manner in this stunning silver medal (fig. 18).

An attractive purchase for the medals department is a 1927 uniface bronze plaquette designed by C. Petersen. This piece is dedicated to the British writer, and prin-





Fig. 18: France. Launch of the Normandie. AR commemorative medal, by Jean Vernon. 1935, (ANS 2011.3.7, purchase) 68.0 mm.

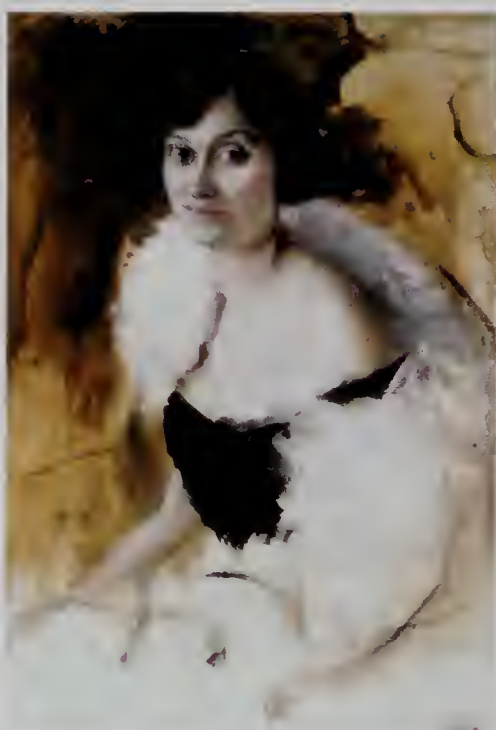


Fig. 20: United Kingdom. Lady Elizabeth Asquith- Princess Antoinette Bibesco, by Augustus John. Oil. 1919. 1,016mm x 762mm.



Fig. 19: United States. Elizabeth Asquith Bibesco and Anton Bibesco. Uniface bronze plaquette, by C. Peterson. 1926. Reverse stamped W & H Co, Newark NJ. (ANS 2011.3.8, purchase) 99 mm x 73 mm.

cess, Elizabeth Bibesco (1897–1945)—the daughter of Great Britain’s Prime Minister, Herbert Henry Asquith (from 1908-1916)—and her husband Prince Antone Bibesco (1878–1951), a Romanian diplomat (fig. 19). The marriage of this prominent couple in 1919 became the society wedding of the year, attended by everyone from the Queen to George Bernard Shaw. Antoine Bibesco was a life-long friend of Marcel Proust, and after his marriage to Elizabeth she too became a favorite of the reclusive writer. At the time of her marriage Proust wrote that she “was probably unsurpassed in intelligence by any of her contemporaries,” and added that “she looked like a lovely figure in an Italian fresco.” The plaque came eight years after Lady Elizabeth Asquith was painted by famous British artist Augustus John (1878 - 1961) (fig. 20).

We are grateful to get an excellent rare example (only three known) of the Swedish Royal House wedding medal of Princess Sibylla of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha and Prince Gustaf Adolf (fig. 21), designed by the famous German medalist and sculptor Karl Goetz (1875-1950). In this particular case, the ANS is upgrading its collection by adding this specimen, which is in superb collection. Since the donation of the Goetz collection by the Goldberg Family, the ANS holds a





Fig. 21: Sweden. Marriage of Sibylla of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, Gustaf Adolf of Sweden. AE medal, by Karl Goetz. 1932. (ANS 2011.3.9, purchase) 132mm.



Fig. 22: Germany. 250th Anniversary of Merck pharmaceutical company. AE Medal, by Ludwig Gies. 1918. (ANS 2011.5.1, purchase) 113.0 mm.





Fig. 23: France. Soldier with Rucksack. AE uniface plaque, by Albert Pommier. 1914-1918. (ANS 2011.5.2, purchase) 102 x 67 mm.



Fig. 24: Austria. Happy New Year. AR uniface plated medal, by Franz Kounitzky. 1906 (ANS 2011.2.1, gift of Robert Schaaf) 42.5 x 62 mm.

near-complete collection of medals by this well-known German artist.

Gustaf Adolf was a Crown Prince of Sweden and the eldest son of Gustaf VI Adolf of Sweden. His mother was a granddaughter of Queen Victoria. On October 19, 1932, he married Princess Sibylla of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, daughter of Carl Eduard, Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha. Princess Sibylla was a grant-granddaughter of Queen Victoria and a granddaughter of Prince Leopold Duke of Albany, the youngest son of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha. In 1947, Prince Gustaf Adolf was killed in an airplane accident at the Copenhagen Airport in Copenhagen, Denmark. One of his sons is Carl XVI Gustaf, today's King of Sweden.

The ANS also obtained through purchase two fine medals previously lacking from the cabinet. One of these is an exceedingly rare work by the German artist Ludwig Gies (1887-1966), one of the finest of the Munich Medallists. It is a bronze medal to commemorate 250th Anniversary of Merck Pharmaceutical Company. Beautifully detailed in Gies's inimitable style, the obverse shows the apothecary Friedrich Merck in his lab in 1668. Notice the detail: the distillation apparatus, the scales, and more bizarrely, the cat in the lower fore and the scorpion dangling from a bracket. Reverse shows the Merck industrial plant 250 years later with patron saint in foreground (fig. 22).

Another important purchase is a uniface bronze plaque Soldier with Rucksack commemorating the French soldiers of World War I (fig. 23). This medal was designed by the prominent sculptor Albert Pommier (1880-1944), who studied at the École des Beaux-Arts with Louis-Ernest Barrias (1841-1905). In 1937 Pommier achieved a monumental group for international exposition at the Palais de Chaillot. His sculpture, tablets, and medals, whether commemorating the life of the poilu of 1914-18 or depicting the life of the natives of the Maghreb, show a balanced and synthetic art.

ANS Life Fellow Robert W. Schaaf donated to the Society an excellent example of a New Year silver-plated medal of 1906 designed by Franz Kounitzky (1880-1928) (fig. 24). Kounitzky was an outstanding medallist of the Viennese school, who produced a number of portrait medals, among them those of Darwin; the composers Schumann, Brahms, and Mahler; and the novelist Ivan Turgenev. He also designed a series of silvered bronze plaquettes for New Year's in 1905 to 1911, some of which were exhibited at the ANS International Medallic Exhibition in 1910.



The ANS's extensive collection of the British Art Medal Society (BAMS) series grew by 23 new examples that were not yet represented in the cabinet. This new purchase includes a medal with a facing portrait of Samuel Pepys (1633–1703), best known for his extraordinary diary, by Ronald Searle (fig. 25); an showing Britain's famous Poet Laureate John Betjeman (1906–1984), by Peter Quinn; a large, thick, cast bronze medal of Pyramus and Thisbe, by Geoffrey Clarke (fig. 26); an interesting example entitled *Dreamer*, with a mask-like man's head with eyes closed on the obverse, dreaming of a seductive Eve on the reverse, by John Paddison (fig. 27). The medal *In Praise of Limestone*, by Derek Morris, shows the layering of the rock in metal and celebrates the artist passion for landscape of the very special qualities of limestone country (fig. 28). Jane McAdam Freud joins the rock and Sisyphus for eternity in the standing medal *Sisyphus* (fig. 29). The Royal Mint of the United Kingdom produced *Turner*, a medal designed by the freelance engraver, coin and medal designer Philip Nathan (fig. 30). This beautiful, small plaquette bears realistic features of the famous painter Joseph Mallord William Turner (1775–1851) on the obverse, based on a drawing by Cornelius Varley (1781–1873) (fig. 31), with leitmotifs from Turner's work on the reverse. Other items in this group of ANS new purchase represented medallic work of the talented artist, sculptor, and medalist Ron Dutton, the 2009 recipient of the J. Sanford Saltus Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Art of the Medal (fig. 32).

We are pleased to enhance the ANS's collection of medals issued by coin clubs and numismatics organizations with three examples from the Rochester Numismatic Association. These are the Annual Past President Bronze Medal for Joseph Lanzafame, 95th President of the Rochester Numismatic Association of 2007, designed by Brian Timmons and Alphonse Kolb; the Annual Past President medal for Theodore L. Vaccarella, 96th President of the Rochester Numismatic Association of 2008, designed by Luigi Badia and Alphonse Kolb; and the Annual Past President medal for John Stephen, 97th president of the Rochester Numismatic Association of 2009, designed by Luigi Badia and Alphonse Kolb. The Rochester North American Mint, New York, produced all three of these medals.



Fig. 25: United Kingdom. British Art Medal Society. Samuel Pepys. AE medal, by Ronald Searle. 1984. (ANS 2010.63.1, purchase) 71.0 mm.



Fig. 26: United Kingdom. British Art Medal Society. Pyramus and Thisbe ". AE medal, by Geoffrey Clarke. 1985. (ANS 2010.63.4, purchase) 89.0 mm.



Fig. 27: United Kingdom. British Art Medal Society. *Dreamer. Dreamer*". AE medal, by John Paddison. 1987. (ANS 2010.63.10, purchase) 102.0 mm.





Fig. 28: United Kingdom. British Art Medal Society. *In praise of Limestone*. AE medal, by Derek Morris. 1987 (ANS 2010.63.11, purchase) 96.0 mm.



Fig. 29: United Kingdom. The British Art Medal Society. *Sisyphus*, AE medal, by Jane McAdam Freud. 1989. (ANS 2010.63.13, purchase) 90.0 x 100.0 mm.



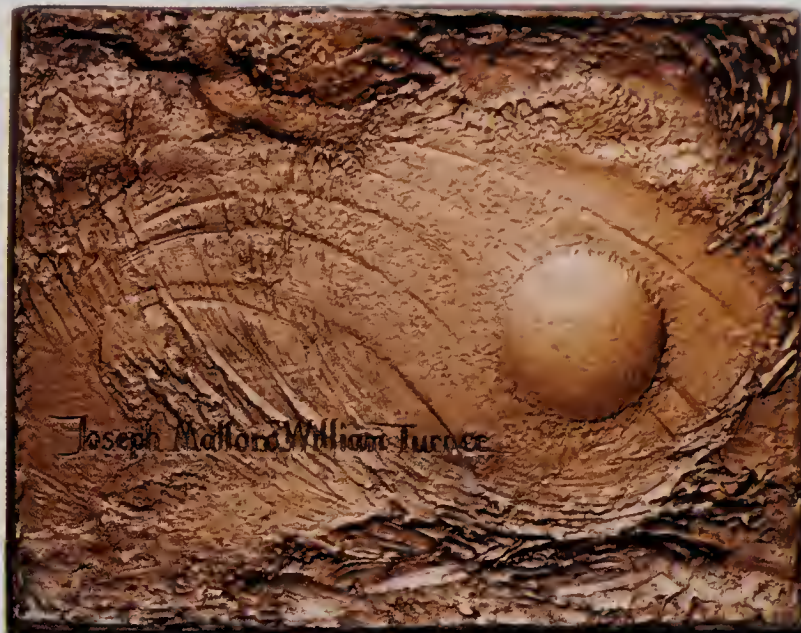


Fig. 30: United Kingdom. British Art Medal Society. Turner, AE plaque, by Philip Nathan. 1989. (ANS 2010.63.14, purchase) 85.0 mm. x 106.0 mm.



Fig. 31: United Kingdom. Joseph Mallord William Turner, drawing by Cornelius Varley, 1815.



Fig. 32: United Kingdom. British Art Medal Society. Stonehenge. AE medal, by Ron Dutton. 1987. (ANS 2010.63.23, purchase) 96.00 mm.



# Library News: Rare Book Cataloging

*Elizabeth Hahn*

Home to more than 10,000 items, the John W. Adams Rare Book Room of the ANS Library is a daily reminder of the importance of the collections. While many of these items can be found in the online catalog, there still remain some 6,000 books that require proper cataloging. With the help of a generous donation from an anonymous donor in the Fall of 2010, it became possible to address this issue and initiate a serious effort to catch up on this backlog. The donation of \$20,000 was made in honor of Brent and Mack Pogue, names that will be recorded in the title notes of each online record that they help to catalog. Another donation from the Numismatic Bibliomania Society has added yet more fuel to this project, and like all donors to this project, their name will also be highlighted in the associated records.

With funding in place, efforts first turned to filling the role of rare book cataloger. At the end of 2010, a successful candidate was found in Maggie Long, who had previously demonstrated her skill and eagerness for the project when she worked in the ANS Library as a library graduate school intern in the summer of 2010. Since her hiring as a part-time cataloging consultant, Maggie has already completed 41 rare books, which require more time to catalog than general monographs as they involve original and enhanced cataloging of the item.<sup>1</sup> Although multiple copies of a rare work might exist in content, there are many small details that might exist to make a book unique. Annotations and slight variations in title pages are two common factors that may affect the uniqueness of a book. While general cataloging provides basic bibliographic information that can sometimes be found in similar formats of other library records (which can then be easily imported into the catalog), original cataloging demands that all of the information be added without the assistance of another library's record.

## Early Auctions

One recently cataloged item that required a good deal of descriptive cataloging is a purchase from February 2010.<sup>2</sup> The item comprises two very early auction catalogs from London, dating to 1741-1742. The first auction title, *A Catalogue of the Collection of the Right Honourable Edward Earl of Oxford deceas'd...*, contains 18 pages of more than 300 lots including ancient urns,

bronzes, rare books, altars, and more. Handwritten annotations made by a contemporary hand document buyers and prices realized and provide valuable information about the sale as well as the provenance of items in the auction. The second auction, *A catalogue of Greek, Roman and English Coins, Medallions and Medals, of the Right Honourable Edward Earl of Oxford, deceas'd...*, contains 50 pages of some 520 lots that include brief descriptions along with weights, and again contains valuable buyer and pricing information (fig. 1). Prices are written out in three columns, specifying the appropriate pounds, shillings, and pence that were paid for each lot. Detective skills are often needed to interpret such scripted notes, but in this case, the script is neat and care was taken for accuracy.

These two sales represent the great collections formed by Robert Harley, Prime Minister and the first Earl of Oxford and Mortimer (1661-1724), and his son, Edward, second Earl (1689-1741). Robert began his collection in October 1704 with the purchase of more than 600 manuscripts from the collection of the antiquary Sir Simonds d'Ewes (d. 1650). These two auctions illustrate the wealth of their collections, which sold along with some 50,000 printed books, 41,000 prints, and 350,000 pamphlets. Auction prices ranged from 4 shillings for "a small old head" (lot 6, page 10, March 11th sale) to 173 pounds and 5 shillings for Vandyck's group of "Sir Kenelm Digby, lady, and 2 sons" (lot 47, page 18). In the numismatic sales, a group of four pennies of Henry II went for 2 shillings, while a gold medallion of John and Cornelius de Witt went for 25 pounds (fig. 1, lot 185). A decade after his death, Harley's daughter sold the collection for the price of £10,000 to the nation, further demonstrating the extent of the Harley collections. Now comprising more than 7,000 manuscripts, 14,000 charters, and 500 rolls, the Harleian collection remains one of the outstanding collections of the British Library.<sup>3</sup> And as one of the earliest numismatic auction catalogs ever printed, this item stands as an important piece of numismatic literature and certainly makes an essential addition to the ANS library collections.

## An Essay on Coining

Another treasure of the rare book room is the unique manuscript by Samuel Thompson, *An essay on coining, from 1783*.<sup>4</sup> This rare and remarkable manuscript



[ 20 ]

2 8 0	Lot 168	Coronation Medal of K. William and Q. Mary	0 11 21
12 10 0	Lot 169	A Medallion of K. William on taking Namur	3 2 0
7 2 6	Lot 170	A Medal of taking Vigo	1 14 4
3 6 0	Lot 171	Ditto on the Peace	0 15 14
2 5 0	Lot 172	Her Farthing, struck in Gold	0 6 4

Third Day's Sale, Saturday, March the 20th.

King GEORGE I.

23 15 0	Lot 173	A fine Medallion on his being made Elector	5 11 13
3 4 0	Lot 174	His Coronation Medal	0 14 14
	Lot 175	Coronation Medal of K. George II.	0 15 2
6 6 0	Lot 176	Ditto of Queen Caroline	0 14 15
	Lot 177	A Gold Seal of Edmund King of Sicily, Brother of King Henry III of England	0 8 11

Foreign Gold MEDALS.

23 15 0	Lot 177	A fine Medallion on the Death of Ernst Augustus, Duke of Brunswick, &c. 1698	5 11 0
6 6 0	Lot 178	A fine Medal of Philip V. K. of Spain	2 10 6
10 5 0	Lot 179	Ditto of him and his Queen	2 9 0
12 12 6	Lot 180	A Medallion of Frederic I. K. of Prussia, by the Royal Academy of Sciences at Berlin	3 1 8
9 5 0	Lot 181	A Medal of Sophia Princess Palatine of the Rhine	2 4 10
4 2 6	Lot 182	A Medal of Czar Peter upon the taking of Nottebourg, 12 Oct. 1702	2 3 11
4 1 0	Lot 183	A Medal of Maximilian Eman. Duke of Bavaria	0 19 14
4 12 0	Lot 184	Ditto, of Gabriel Prince of Transylvania	1 2 4
25 0 0	Lot 185	A fine Medallion of John and Cornelius de Witt	5 18 13
	Lot 186	A small Gold Medal of Pope Clement XII.	0 3 120
1 6 0	Lot 187	A very small Coin of the Emperor Leopold, 1687	0 3 120
1 13 0	Lot 188	Four thin Plates of Gold, exhibiting our Saviour, the Virgin Mary, K. James II. and the Chevalier	0 8 1
4 9 0	Lot 189	Five Pieces of Turkish Coins, Sequins, &c.	0 8 1
	Lot 190	An Ashreef of Akker Sba Anno Heg. 981	1 1 4
	Lot 191	Ditto of Sba Jaban Anno Heg. 1040	1 1 4
	Lot 192	Ditto of Aurang Zeb Anno Heg. 1107	0 17 21

Foreign Gold COINS.

1 13 0	Lot 190	A Gold Medal of Frederick Henry Prince of Orange	0 8 10
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Lot 191

Fig. 1: Page 20 of the Harley auction on March 20, 1741. Note the handwritten buyer and prices realized information done by a contemporary hand.



Fig. 2: Sketch on page 27 of Thompson's Essay on Coining, depicting an English coin press, including a die used that is drawn as the exact shape and size of those used.

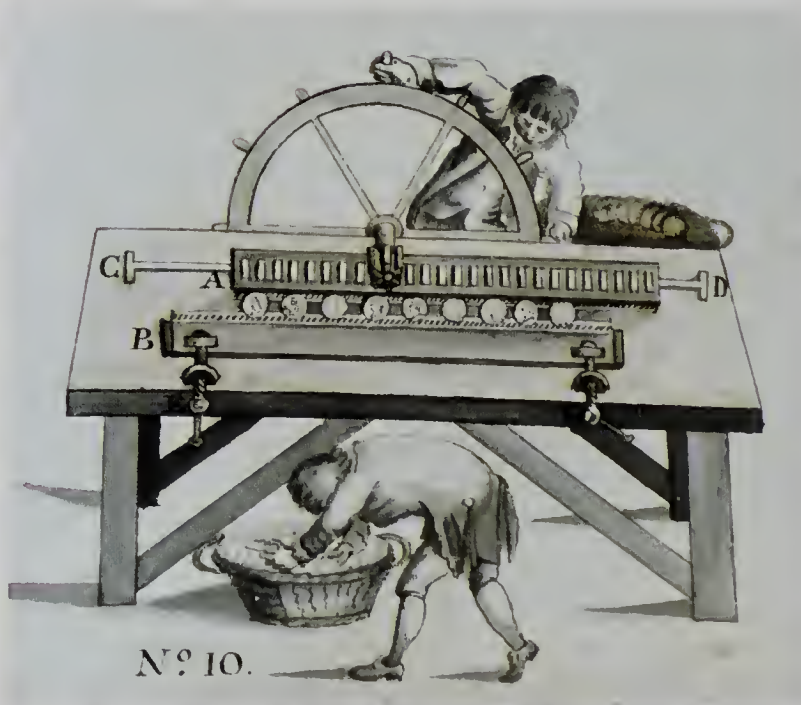


Fig. 3: Sketch on page 31 of Thompson's Essay on Coining, depicting the milling process.



provides a glimpse into the early coining process in Europe at a time when it was still being developed in the recently formed United States. The manuscript is dated 1783 and is written entirely in elegant (and legible!) handwriting, while eight detailed hand drawn sketches illustrate the coining process from start to finish. The 56 pages detail everything from prepping the metal strips, to cutting and striking the planchets, to milling the edges. Detailed notes at the end provide estimates about quantifying the coining process, including the time and cost of labor involved in producing gold, silver, and copper coins. Thompson makes similar time estimates throughout as he discusses each part of the process. For example, in describing the process of striking the planchet as depicted in figure 2, he notes that “to do two thousand will take two men one day and a half.” His final summary on gold coins concludes that “three men in six days, will be able to coin two thousand Guineas.” For comparison, by 1795, the newly formed U.S. Mint in Philadelphia (established in 1792) was operating three planchet cutting presses, with a total punching capacity of 15,000 to 18,000 planchets daily. And today, the Philadelphia U.S. Mint can produce more than 45 million coins *per day* (some 14 billion coins per year).

The early coining process documented in the manuscript begins with casting the metal ingots to be used for coining. The metal was then softened by placing it in a cast iron furnace. After being cleaned, it was placed between cast iron rollers, powered by a pair of harnessed horses, to achieve the desired thickness. The metal is then put through another set of hand-powered rollers to smooth the surface and refine the thickness. Next, the planchets are punched out by a screw punch, again powered by hand. Once cut, the planchets are again cleaned and then brought to a large screw press for striking (fig. 2). It took at least three operators to run the screw press, one on each end of a weighted iron bar and another sitting in front of the press. The bar operators would turn the bar, causing a heavy iron screw to slowly advance an upper die downward towards a lower die, with considerable force. Having been positioned between the dies before they were brought together, the planchet would be “struck”, leaving an impression of a coin on both sides.

Thompson tells us what happened next: “When the impression is struck on them, they are adjusted to the weight, if too heavy, by filing them round the edges, in this there is a waste on the filings in the melting them, of about twelve penny weight.” Once the weight is perfected, the coins are then milled on the edges using a machine that moves on a groove when the wheel is turned (fig. 3). The wheel is turned so that the coins move from point “C” to “D” and reeded or let-

tered edges are impressed. If the edges were meant to remain smooth, the coin naturally skipped this step. Thompson continues that “B, being pressed tight to the coin by the screws E and F, causes the coin to receive the impression from the edges.” The finished coins are then inspected according to the appropriate standards. If deemed unsuitable, they are melted down and the process is started over.<sup>5</sup>

Although no accession information exists for this manuscript, the title page provides some clues about provenance and purpose. The verso of the fly-leaf includes a notation of “Mathew Bredon, 13 [unclear letter, perhaps S.] Camden St., Dublin” along with the note “original illustrative drawings in India ink.” Thompson himself is noted as a die-sinker and according to estimates that he provides at the end of the manuscript, likely earned an annual wage of 300 pounds. Some suggest that the manuscript served as a technical supporting document to a coinage proposal of some sort.<sup>6</sup> Either way, this rare volume provides a valuable glimpse into the early coining process and serves as yet another wonderfully representative example of the unique and exciting collections of the ANS Library.

### A 17th Century Glimpse of Magna Graecia

It was in Renaissance Europe that ancient coins began to be studied systematically, as seen in the early works of Guillaume Budé (*De asse et partibus eius*, 1516) and Andrea Fulvio (*Illustrium imagines*, 1517). Throughout the 16th and 17th centuries, other works appeared. One such study is found in our final example of recently cataloged rare items, the *Rariora Magnae Graeciae Numismata*.<sup>7</sup> Published in 1683 by the physician and botanist Johannes Georgias Volckamerus (1616-1693), the book is the work of Prospero Parisio, an Italian antiquarian living and working at the Spanish court during the reigns of Philip II and Philip III. This slim quarto contains 56 pages of Latin and Italian text along with thirteen plates and five maps. There is a foreword by the German philologist Christophori Arnoldi (1627-1685). The plates detail a maximum of twenty coins per page, showing obverse and reverse of each (fig. 4), while the five maps outline the regions that made up Magna Graecia (namely, southern Italy and Sicily).

While limited space here prevents a detailed discussion of the book itself, one cannot overlook the remarkable plates and maps that are included at the end of the text. In the map of Sicily (Figure 5), many of the place names are written out in the form of their ancient Greek mint. Sometimes this includes the full name of the town, written out in capital Greek letters, similar to the inscriptions that might be found on related coins, such as the modern town of Agrigento, known in antiquity



as Akragas, and appearing on the map as ΑΚΡΑΓΑΣ. Some towns are also identified, as are more than two dozen rivers, many of which have had different names over time but which can still be identified. The Alcantara River, which flows along the northern slopes of Mount Etna down through Randazzo and ending at Naxos, was called *Akesines Potamos* by Thucydides.<sup>8</sup> In the Parisio map, we can identify the river “akesines” (ακεσινῆς), written in Greek script along a river line correctly situated just below Naxos (fig. 5).

As the title and inner text suggest, the book as a whole is primarily concerned with the saints, martyrs, and other religious individuals within the then contemporary Kingdom of Naples which occupied the southern part of the Italian peninsula where the boundaries of Magna Graecia also overlapped. (In 1816, the Kingdom of Naples united with the Kingdom of Sicily to form the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies). All of the coins illustrated come from this part of the mainland, and numerous locations are neatly inked in Italian script. Only the map of Sicily includes the Greek names of places and rivers, perhaps filling the numismatic role that is otherwise absent in the plates. The entire volume might appeal to anyone interested in hagiography, numismatics, or cartography and again is one more example of an exceptional treasure of the rare book room.

#### Endnotes

- 1 For more on what defines an item as “rare,” see Library News in *ANS Magazine*, Winter 2009, pp. 12–15.
- 2 Donum record #175954
- 3 <http://www.bl.uk/reshelp/findhelprestype/manuscripts/harleymss/harleymss.html>
- 4 Donum record # 122612
- 5 For a more detailed description of the coining process, see: Taxay, Don. 1966. *The U.S. Mint and Coinage*. New York: Arco, pp. 79–99.
- 6 Spilman, J.C. “An Overview of Early American Coinage Technology.” In: *The Colonial Newsletter*, April 1982: p. 768.
- 7 Donum record #3565
- 8 Book 4, Chapter 25, of his *History of the Peloponnesian War*.



Fig. 4: Detail of a coin of Taranto from plate XII of the *Rariora Magnae Graeciae Numismata*.



Fig. 5: Map of Sicily from the *Rariora Magnae Graeciae Numismata*.



# Current Cabinet Activities

*By Robert Wilson Hoge*

Each time I prepare another of these periodic reports on the ANS curatorial staff's activities, there arises a question of how much to try to include, and how much to leave out. Many inquiries, I will admit, are similar from week to week, month to month, and year to year: authentications, evaluations, and interpretations, Indian Peace medals, American rarities, and key Classical coins... There are also many variations and nuances to the requests for service, and new subjects keep coming up as a result of further investigations and discoveries, adding varied flavor. I attempt to convey something of what is going on through mentioning questions that have been brought to the cabinet, and illustrating selections of specimens that have drawn attention from one quarter or another.

## **Americana and Miscellany**

Our member-friends with the Flushing Coin Club are always appreciative of the ANS' great collections when they come to visit, providing me with an opportunity to enjoy showing a few splendid pieces to them. I might mention here some areas (figs. 1-2) they savored on one of their outings: coins of Colonial Massachusetts and Maryland, trade dollars, Georgia and Vermont currency, the Medal of Honor...

On the illustrated example (fig. 2) of this Georgia issue, the seal for the \$4 denomination was inadvertently applied; the \$2 notes' seal should be an image of two one-handled jugs floating on water, with the legend SI COLLIDIMUS FRANGIMUR (If we collide, we shatter), rather than a Liberty cap on a pole with crossed caduceus and cornucopia behind it and the legend LIBERTAS CARIOR AURO (Freedom, more precious than gold). Likewise, the collection holds an example of the corresponding \$4 note with the seal proper to the \$2 denomination. A couple of different border markings are also known.

The marvelous new book *The silver coins of Massachusetts: classification, minting technique, atlas*, by Dr. Christopher Salmon, is already generating increased interest in the field of the earliest coins of what is now the United States. Naturally, this is one of my favorite areas. Thanks to the generosity and interest of ANS President Roger S. Siboni and Board member Sydney F. Martin, the entire outstanding collection of Massachusetts

silver (and in fact, all the rest of our American Colonial holdings, as well!) has been digitally photographed, and the images added to our searchable on-line data base catalog (fig. 3). What is more, thanks to action by the Board of Trustees, this vast resource has recently been enhanced and upgraded for ease and efficiency of use by our members and the public, too. As a corollary, I have for some time been in the process of preparing a catalog of the small but interesting collection of Massachusetts and Maryland colonial coins in the Hunterian Museum, in Glasgow, at the request of our colleague there, Dr. Donal Bateson. For those who may be interested, this will soon be appearing in a forthcoming number of the *American Journal of Numismatics*.

Some time ago, Paul Gilkes, Senior Staff Writer for *Coin World*, inquired about the curious 1776 Standing Indian unofficial Massachusetts copper (fig. 4). I have had occasion to mention this delightful, odd-looking, and thus far unique coin in the past. Appearing to have been overstruck on a 1747-dated Irish halfpenny, it is a remarkable piece of Americana, believed to have been minted by the famed Boston silversmith Paul Revere. The coin was donated to the Society in 1917 by our redoubtable curator Howland Wood, together with a Bank of England counterstamped (bust of George III, in octagon) Spanish 4-reales piece.

Howland Wood announced the discovery of this coin and provided an image and description in the June, 1911, issue of *The Numismatist*; he featured it on exhibit at the Society in 1914, and included it in the exhibition catalog published that year. Although he is known to us today primarily as a curator and scholar, Wood amassed large and interesting personal collections, of which the Society became the beneficiary; those portions which he could not afford to donate personally were purchased from him with that intent by his well-to-do friend and colleague Edward T. Newell. Between the two of them, and along with Archer Huntington and J. Sanford Saltus, during their lifetimes they led the way to building the ANS into a world-class cabinet.

Editor of an upcoming *Handbook of Financial Cryptography*, Dr. Burton Rosenberg, Associate Professor of Computer Sciences at the University of Miami, was asked to select cover art. He thought, "Why not





Fig. 1: United States: Maryland, John Chalmer's coinage. AR sixpence, Annapolis, 1783 (small date variety, 6-pointed star following SIX in the legend). Breen 1017 (this coin). (ANS 1950.50.2, purchase) 17 mm. Breen called this coin "extremely rare," citing the ANS coin only.



Fig. 2: United States: Georgia. 2 Spanish milled dollars issue, 1776, with light blue (erroneous) seal, serial no. 726, signed by Edward Telfair, Peter Lavien, Lachlan McGillivray, William Ewen and William O'Bryen, printer unknown. Newman p. 139-40. (ANS 0000.999.29590) 114 x 75 mm.



Fig. 3: Massachusetts Bay Colony. AR threepence, Boston mint, 1652, "Willow Tree" variety. Noe 1-A; Breen 14 (this coin); Crosby --; Salmon 1-A (shown on pp. 124-5 and 278). (ANS 1944.79.1, purchase) 15.5 mm. Acquired from the celebrated dealer Burdette Johnson, in my opinion this is clearly the best-looking of the three known examples.



Fig. 4: United States: Massachusetts. AE pattern copper, Boston, 1776, by Paul Revere. Breen 702. Unique; holed. (ANS 1917.136.2, gift of Howland Wood) 27 mm.





Fig. 5: Province of Pennsylvania. 10 shillings note, issue of January 1, 1756, printed by Franklin and Hall. (ANS 0000.999.29328) 76 x 89 mm. Transparent “hinges” adhere to the back of this note at the corners.



Fig. 6: United States. AV dollar, 1851-D. Breen 6017. (ANS 1944.40.1, purchase). 12 mm. Branch mint issues were largely neglected by 19th-early 20th century collectors; hence, their lack of appearance in the great Brock/Morgan collection acquired by the ANS in 1908.



Fig. 7: United States. AV dollar, Jefferson-Louisiana Purchase commemorative, Philadelphia, 1903, by Charles E. Barber; proof. Breen 7424. (ANS 1938.94.6, gift from the estate of George F. Kunz) 12 mm.

something relating to Benjamin Franklin’s use of leaf imprints on paper currency as security devices—both visually interesting and holding an intellectual connection with the subject matter of financial cryptography?” and contacted us. The Society does have a number of examples of those emissions by Franklin that utilized his revolutionary concept of employing nature printing as an anti-counterfeiting measure (fig. 5). Indeed, two such notes were recently featured in our exhibit at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, developed in cooperation with the U.S Secret Service, relating the story of the constant economic and technological battle against forgery.

Regrettably, the Society’s cabinet lacks examples of Franklin’s anti-counterfeiting nature print series from Pennsylvania, New Jersey or Delaware, for the first twenty or so years of their production (with the exception of the ragged 1746 issue, which I have illustrated before in this column). Do any readers have specimens they would care to donate? Such gifts would be greatly appreciated.

Samantha Sher, our former Curatorial Assistant, reported that a friend of her father had come up with a numismatic question with which our aid was requested. He had found an example of an 1851-dated U.S. gold dollar in nice condition and, naturally enough, was wondering what the relative worth of it might currently be. Of course, this is just one of the great number of instances where we feel it is requisite to refer owners to professional coin dealers, who can then explain the niceties of grading and the marketplace—subjects that are not so closely related to general museum work—but it gives me another chance to highlight the comparison material in the cabinet (fig. 6).

It so happens that the Society is fortunate to hold two lovely examples of 1851 Philadelphia mint gold dollars, the gifts of J. Pierpont Morgan and Arthur G. Fecht. We also own examples of the Charlotte, Dahlonega and New Orleans issues, respectively a gift of Archer M. Huntington, a purchase, and a gift of J. Sanford Saltus, as well as a forgery of the New Orleans Mint issue, a gift of Catherine E. Bullowa Moore. The accession numbers of all these coins, in order, are: ANS 1908.93.6, 1909.283.3, 1944.40.1, 1980.109.2211, 1906.99.64 and 1962.131.1, for those of you who may want to pursue the subject further. The genuine U.S. gold pieces in the cabinet have now all had their images captured and added into our on-line data base, although the counterfeits have not.

Among other gold pieces requested for viewing by visitors were examples from the collection of the earlier series of commemoratives (fig. 7). The Society has a



beautiful run of these issues, so extensive, indeed, that several years ago we were able to sell some “excess” ones along with other die duplicate American gold coins through the good offices of the celebrated Stack’s auction firm.

Unsurprisingly, recent visitors have expressed considerable interest in the amazing collection of Gobrecht dollars donated by the late Dr. Julius Korein—the greatest ever assembled. While helping with the study of these beautiful pieces during his visit, researcher John Dannreuther also examined other early U.S. mint proofs in the cabinet, and felt confident that the J. P. Morgan specimen of the 1852 Seated Liberty dollar (fig. 8) is indeed an original proof—seemingly the only extant example!

The depth and quality of the ANS cabinet continue to delight and amaze me nearly ten years after having begun working with its collections. Our proof U.S. trade dollars, for instance, have drawn attention in recent months, although we lack the supreme rarities of 1884 and 1885 (anyone care to donate one?). Unknown to collectors until 1908, examples of these two issues were not included in the marvelous Robert Brock collection, which was purchased by J. Pierpont Morgan and donated to the ANS through the American Museum of Natural History in that same year. So far, none of the owners of the several 1884 or 1885 pieces has cared to donate a specimen, and the Society has not had the opportunity of the funds to purchase any. The pieces that we do have are extraordinary and highly cherished; we love to have an excuse to share them with visitors and correspondents (fig. 9)!

Long time ANS member Donald Simon inquired about a modern ingot he had acquired, a 1.608 oz. Engelhard gold (999.9 fine) bar with the serial number 125098, probably made sometime in the mid 20th century. He stated that since BASF took over Engelhard, “it has become impossible to obtain any history on anything Engelhard.” He had hoped to learn just when the ingot was manufactured, but reported that when the German company BASF took over Engelhard they did not, nor do they now, give consideration to the American historical importance of the company, and that the company has thus far been unresponsive to requests for access to Engelhard’s historical records. Unfortunately, this is the sort of problem with which we are generally unable to assist. Do any of our members have suggestions? Such pieces are indeed tangentially numismatic, certainly interesting and valuable.

### The Latin American World

I have mentioned in the past the importance and inherent interest in the Society’s collections of materi-



Fig. 8: United States. AR dollar, 1852, proof. Breen 5447. (ANS 1908.93.544, gift of J. Pierpont Morgan) 38.1 mm. This fabulous discovery coin is presently regarded as unique.



Fig. 9: United States. AR trade dollar, 1877, proof. Breen 5807 (ANS 1908.93.566, gift of J. Pierpont Morgan) 38.1 mm. Rarest of the proof trade dollars with the exception of the 1884 and 1885 issues, only 510 examples of the 1877 were minted; the Brock/Morgan coin is a lovely representative.



Fig. 10: Spanish Colonial Mexico, Ferdinand VII. WM (counterfeit) 2 reales, 1812-H.J. Kleeberg 12A-L16. (ANS 1944.95.37, gift of Abe Kosoff) 28 mm. Kleeberg recorded four known examples. The famed dealer Abe Kosoff donated a significant number of Spanish-American contemporary counterfeits in his 1944 gift.



Fig. 11: Spanish Colonial Chile, Ferdinand VII. AR royalist fidelity award medal, Santiago de Chile, [1818?]. Medina p. 5. (ANS 1947.47.548, purchase, ex J. A. Miller coll.) 39.5 mm.





Fig. 12: China, Qing dynasty. Qian Long (1736-1795) AE tongbao, n.d. (ca. 1743), Tainan or Fuzhou mint. Fisher 2326; Hartill 22.336; Schjoth 1487; KM 435. (ANS 1986.40.503, gift of Robert Schonwalter) 24 mm.



Fig. 13: Japan, Tokugawa dynasty, Genbun era (1736-1818). AR cho gin, n.d. KM C# 9. (ANS 1937.179.5363, gift of Frances Reilly) 93 x 33.3 mm. The date-era character markings appear in circular impressions toward each end.



Fig. 14: United States: Massachusetts (Virginia). "Merrimack" relic AE souvenir medalet, Springfield, 1868, by J. A. Bolen. Johnson 34; King 192; Musante JAB-31. (ANS 1868.12.1, gift of J. F. Pratt; formerly 0000.999.46291) 25.3 mm.

als from Mexico and Central and South America and other once-Spanish-held territories. Lately, a number of researchers have been pursuing the circulating contemporary counterfeits of the colonial 2 reales (the "two bit pieces"). John Lorenzo recently made a study of examples in the cabinet (fig. 14), and has been working with colleagues toward producing a die corpus, building upon his earlier work presented in the 14th COAC Proceedings. The ANS has a fine collection of about 100 of these coins, most of them studied and published by former curator John Kleeberg.

Fernando Chao (h), co-author, with John W. Adams, of the important new work *Medallic Portraits of Admiral Vernon*, visited the ANS to study early Latin American medals. Even with the great loss of the Hispanic Society of America collection, we still hold many significant items along these lines. And indeed, there are pockets of Latin American items acquired over the years that have never been thoroughly studied or properly accessioned. I recalled a couple of significant-looking unidentified pieces that I had set aside for future investigation, and it occurred to me that these might interest Sr. Chao, an authority in the field, and I located them to bring to his attention.

Chao was surprised and awed, informing me that these were some the earliest and rarest Chilean medals, and I am now thrilled to have the occasion to catalog and show such a piece (fig. 15). It is covered in a remarkable booklet that the ANS Library obtained from the January, 2011, Kolbe & Fanning numismatic literature auction. This is an extremely rare work by the great Chilean numismatic scholar J. T. Medina, his *Medallas de la revolución de la independencia*, privately published in 1910. It would seem that these medals have been essentially unknown, except to a very few profound scholars like Chao, due to the excessive rarity of Medina's seminal publication. Congratulations to our Librarian, Elizabeth Hahn, for making this important acquisition!

This handsome piece is essentially a proclamation coin, the equivalent of a silver peso de a ocho (eight reales, or "piece of eight"). It features a plain edge, at the 12 o'clock position on which there are clear traces of a large mount having been once attached and subsequently removed. In the original accession history records, this medal had not been identified at all

### Traditions of East Asia

Whereas in the West, traditional and characteristic Chinese cast bronze coins with square central holes are routinely called "cash," in China, in Chinese, they are properly referred to as qianbao as many numismatists are of course aware. Alexis Mucha, Coordinator of



Catalogue Photography and Gallery Assistant at New York City's Bard Graduate Center, sought some information on a classic example in our cabinet (fig. 10), a “cash” coin dating from the Manchu dynasty (the *Qing*, familiarly transliterated as *Ch'ing* in the Wade-Giles system). This coinage was among the vast quantities, numbering in the billions, issued under the Gaozong emperor (“Kao Tsung,” 1711-1799), he of the Qian Long (“Ch'ien Lung”) era. The particular specimen in question, denominated a *tongbao*, or “current coin,” as it is inscribed, is recorded as having been among those exhibited at the American Centennial International Exposition in Philadelphia, in 1876. It is also unusual, at the ANS, simply in that it is *not* from the vast collection formed by John Reilly, Jr.

A fairly typical-appearing piece from the collection of Robert Schonwalter, a prominent New York collector, this coin weighs 3.48g and bears the Manchu two-character reverse legend *Boo Tai* (“coin of Tai”). Hartill ascribes it to a Taiwanese mint (Tainan), dating from the 1740s—(hence the mint name “Tai”), but it is also claimed to have been cast at Fuzhou, in Fujian Province, according to the *Standard Catalog of World Coins*, 4th ed. This issue is said to have been specifically produced as payment for Manchu troops on Taiwan toward the mid 18th century; about 10,000,000 of these coins were minted over a period of years. At the height of the Qian Long reign, in all the mints of China a total of some 350,000,000 *qianbao* were cast per year, making this *Tai* issue definitely one of the scarcer ones.

From early youth I have been fascinated by the cultures of the Far East (as we sometimes refer to this region), so it is indeed a delight to be able to work with the vast collections of the ANS—astonishing in their depth and quality, and quite possibly the best in the world! I remember having surprised my sixth-grade class and teacher one day upon announcing that I wished to study Chinese. Eventually I did, although it was but one of my many interests. In a casual way, I even began collecting and studying East Asian coins, so today I welcome inquiries in this area along with those of my more primary fields of interest and concern.

It was interesting for me when our East Asian collection got “googled” by Timothy Craft, who was searching for images and information that could match an unusual acquisition, a silver bar and a couple of smaller rounded items purchased from a man who said that his father had brought them back from service in Japan following World War II. This inquiry was of course no problem to deal with. What he had found was an example of *cho gin* (“bar silver”), a small ingot with characters hammered onto it, and *mameita gin* (“bean silver”), prob-

ably of types dating from the Genbun Era (1736-1818). Our Japanese collection, of which internet images had led Craft to contact us, is quite extensive although it does not rival those from China (fig. 11).

Like our vast Chinese collection, the Japanese holdings of the ANS mostly emanated from the superb collections assembled by our wonderful benefactor John Reilly, Jr., who purchased extensively from Henry A. Ramsden, the prolific dealer and collector of the late 19th and early 20th centuries operating out of Yokohama, publisher of the *Numismatic and Philatelic Journal of Japan*. (In accordance with Reilly's wishes, his daughter Frances donated his entire collection to the cabinet in 1937 upon his untimely death.) The Society used to maintain a “Reilly Room,” where Board meetings were formerly held in the space that Reilly had used as an office and storage space for his East Asian collections, in the days of his friend Edward T. Newell.

### American Medals: War and Service

In the August 23, 2010 number of the *E-Sylum*, the on-line publication of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society, editor-publisher Wayne Homron, quoting tokens expert David Schenkman, related the discovery of a specimen of “A piece of copper taken from the wreck of the rebel ram Merrimac in 1862 by J. F. Pratt, A. A. Surg. U. S. A.” (AJN, vol. 3, no. 4, p. 32) pictures of which were attached. “In my opinion this is one of the most desirable of all numismatic ‘relic’ items,” Schenkman went on to state, and continued “Neil Musante, in his comprehensive work, *The Medallic Work of John Adams Bolen*, ... notes that Dr. Pratt donated one specimen to the New England Numismatic and Archaeological Society. There is also an example in the American Numismatic Society. Musante only found a record of one nineteenth century sale, and two in the twentieth century.”

Excited by reference to a specimen given to the ANS in its early years, I went to see if I could locate such a piece in the cabinet. And there it was (fig. 12), this great and fascinating rarity, actually made out of a segment of the salvaged detritus from the C.S.S. *Virginia* (a.k.a. U.S.S. Merrimack), a relic of one of the pivotal naval battles in all of history and a truly great early American medalet! As an Army doctor on the scene at the time, Lt. Pratt, of Massachusetts, like many other soldiers present, had collected a piece of the scrap metal as a souvenir. Bolen combined his new Pratt-Merrimac reverse with one of his stock Lincoln obverses to mint this rare issue.

As cited above, this medal was actually first brought to the attention of numismatists by Dr. Charles Anthon, in the August, 1868, issue of the *American Journal of*



*Numismatics*, of which he served as editor at the time. He provided a description of the piece and announced:

Through our friend Mr. J. A. Bolen of Springfield, Mass. we have received an impression of the above medalet as a donation to the society from Dr. J. F. Pratt, whom, as the society is now adjourned, we heartily thank in its behalf. The Doctor has four for sale at Two Dollars each. This memorial originated in the following way. Dr. Pratt having written to Mr. Bolen that he had such a piece of copper, the latter suggested that this use should be made of it. Being authorized to do so, he struck ten impressions only, and then defaced the reverse die, sending the Doctor the die and all the impressions except one. It is an interesting example of 'Historic Material.'

Thanks to the *Esylum* alert, I was able to correct the ANS accession data, and give due credit in our records to Dr. Pratt for his gift. Unfortunately, not all the specimens in the cabinet are accompanied by their proper registration documentation; many lack their connection to their accession numbers, so in most cases these have had to be reconstructed as each item is catalogued into our database. Hence, our frequent use of provisional numbers—typically using the prefix 0000.999.(item no.\_\_\_\_). The Society's collection of U.S. medals of all kinds is probably unequalled, and includes a truly remarkable depth and quality of issues. How many more unrecognized treasures lurk?

Researcher Harry Waterson contacted us concerning the U.S. Navy Distinguished Service Medal, first style, the unadopted version replaced by that of the famous 20th century sculptor Paul Manship (fig. 13). Waterson was investigating this issue as a possible design by Julio Kilenyi, and wished to know whether the edge of pieces in the Society's cabinet were numbered or not, a feature not addressed in our on-line data base description. I located this medal and checked it on his behalf, finding that the specimen that we hold bears no edge markings of any kind, but that the eagle bar-attachment for the pendant ribbon, to which the decoration is affixed by a standing loop passing through a matching loop on the bar, bears the markings BB&B and BRONZE. There is no pin present on this example. Waterson observed that according to the Navy contract, all examples were supposed to be edge-numbered, indicating the possibility that ours might have been a display piece for the Bailey, Banks and Biddle permanent exhibit (but if so, it should have been so marked).

Quite a few other medals in the cabinet have also been the subject matter of inquiries and studies in recent months. As almost always, Indian peace medals have



Fig. 15: J.A. Bolen from ANS Archives.



Fig. 16: U.S. Navy Distinguished Service Medal, first style, unadopted design, [1919], probably by Julio Kilenyi. Kerrigan p. 21. (ANS 0000.999.48705; possibly ANS 1920.32.2?, exchange) 40 mm.



drawn more than their share of attention (that is in terms of their total numbers in the collection, not their inherent fascination!), as I have often remarked in the past. The rare U.S. Mint medal honoring Dr. Benjamin Rush, one of the earliest American products by Moritz Fürst, was another subject of an inquiry (we do not have an example!). The Society's fine group of early examples of the Medal of Honor has received recent attention as well.

I shall have to close now, leaving you, yes, with yet another not altogether satisfying glimpse of the extent and depth of ongoing activities relating to use of the collections. Many current cabinet activities are invariably dictated by circumstances, and can go in almost any direction, and I very rarely have the time to pursue fully where researching these items might lead. Remember, though, that if you yourself have questions, we are here to try to answer them for you. If there is an area of the cabinet that you would specifically like to see depicted on our database, please let us know, and help provide the necessary funds to "capture" the images.

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## 2009 Huntington Medal Award

On March 24, 2011 Professor Dr. Bernd Kluge received the 2009 Archer M. Huntington Award at a ceremony held at the Bode Museum in Berlin. The event, which was attended by over 70 members, was organized by the Numismatische Gesellschaft zu Berlin. On behalf of the State Museums of Berlin, Professor Guenther Schauerte, Deputy Director General of the Berlin Museums, spoke about Dr. Kluge's numerous contributions to Berlin and German numismatics. ANS Executive Director, Dr. Ute Wartenberg Kagan, awarded Dr. Kluge the Huntington medal. Dr. Kluge gave a lecture with an overview of Medieval coinage.



2009 Huntington Honoree Bernd Kluge with  
ANS Executive Director Ute Wartenberg Kagan

In the citation, Dr. Wartenberg Kagan emphasized the close connection between the Berlin cabinet and the ANS during the first half of the 20th century. In 1929, Kurt Regling, then director of the coin cabinet in Berlin, was awarded the Huntington Medal, and Arthur Suhle, who was director of the cabinet through 1973, was given the award in 1957 in recognition of his services for the national German collection.

Bernd Kluge joined the coin cabinet in 1972. Early in his career, Kluge became well known for his concise and numerous publications about Medieval coinage. His publications of coin hoards and die-studies gained him a name well beyond East Germany; he published

smaller collections, which were otherwise difficult to access for foreign scholars. *Brakteaten. Mitteldeutsche Brakteaten aus dem Münzkabinett der Staatlichen Museen zu Berlin*, Leipzig 1984, or *Die Münzschatzfunde im Bezirksmuseum Cottbus* Cottbus 1986, show his dedication to publish material in East German collections. In 1981, he received a research fellowship from the British Academy to publish a part of the collection, a rare recognition for a scholar behind the Iron Curtain. This resulted in a volume in the prestigious series *Sylloge of Coins of the British Isles of the British Academy*. (State Museum Berlin, Coin Cabinet. *Anglo-Saxon, Anglo-Norman and Hiberno-Norse Coins [Sylloge of Coins of the British Isles 36]*, London /Berlin 1987).

While researching the collections, Bernd Kluge and his colleagues continued to rebuild the library of the coin cabinet, which was taken by the Soviet Union as war reparation after World War II and remains in Moscow to this day. After the German unification in 1990, life at the coin cabinet and in the rest of Germany changed dramatically. Dr. Kluge took over the directorship of the museum in 1992, and was immediately given the task of organizing the International Numismatic Congress, which was held in Berlin in 1997. Almost immediately after this event, which allowed the numismatic community to visit one of the world's great coin cabinets for the first time in decades, the Bode Museum along with the coin cabinet, closed for a major renovation. Dr. Kluge and the staff of the cabinet oversaw the move of the collection and a complete renovation. In 2004 the Bode Museum reopened to the public as the first museum on the museum island.

In his attempt to make the collection available to a wider public, Bernd Kluge has encouraged the use of databases; the internet of the Berlin catalogue (IKMK) is today the leading European coin database online, which allows free access to the amazing holdings of the cabinet. In 2007 the first volume of a major handbook, *Numismatik des Mittelalters, Band 1: Handbuch und Thesaurus Nummorum Medii Aevi*, appeared, and the second volume is expected soon.

Bernd Kluge represents the best of numismatic scholarship, which he is able to combine with administrative tasks in a major coin cabinet. It is his achievements



within and beyond the numismatic world of scholarship, for which he was awarded the 2009 Huntington Award.

#### 2010 Huntington Medal Award

On April 27th, 2011, Christof Boehringer was awarded the 2010 Huntington Medals in recognition of outstanding career contributions to numismatic scholarship. An audience of almost 50 members and friends were present for the award ceremony and the delivery of the Silvia Mani Hurter Lecture.

Deputy Director, Dr. Andrew Meadows, read the citation on behalf of the Huntington Committee: "Christof Boehringer, one of Germany's most distinguished scholars in the field of numismatics, is being awarded today the 2010 Huntington Medal. In their selection, the Huntington Committee of the Board of Trustees of the American Numismatic Society looks for scholars who have not only carried out in-depth research in a particular area, but also achieved recognition beyond the boundaries of our discipline. In its deliberations the Committee assesses a candidate's research and impact on our field and on adjacent fields too.

In his long career, Christof Boehringer has built a remarkably wide range of research interests. He studied in Munich, where he received his doctorate in 1966 with a work which was published in 1972 under the title *Zur Chronologie mittelhellenistischer Münzserien 220-160 v. Chr.* A formative element in the work behind this book was his participation in the publication of the excavation finds from Pergamum in Turkey (work he shared with another of our distinguished guests this evening). Yet already before finishing his thesis, he was recognized for his detailed research on the coinages of Sicily and Magna Graecia. One of his first articles, Hieron's Aitna und das Hieroneion, in the *Jahrbuch für Numismatik und Geldgeschichte* for 1968 shows Boehringer's research and sense of discovery at its best. This article addresses in exemplary fashion the history of Aitna, publishes a new coin of the city and addresses—without much fanfare—one of the most discussed questions in ancient Greek numismatics, the dating of the first Syracusan decadrachm, also known as the Damareteion. Here Boehringer dissects the arguments for its traditional date of 480/79, and based on style, hoards and other historical arguments, proposes a date



2010 Huntington Honoree Christof F. Boehringer with ANS Deputy Director Andrew Meadows

of 470 BC. Although there have been further refinements and discussions of this dating, it is generally accepted today.

An impressive achievement for a young scholar, who tackles a well-known problem intelligently and clearly. Here is a student who understands the historical issues, is intimately familiar with the Greek authors and inscriptions, which he applies to the body of Greek coinage.

Another hallmark of Christof Boehringer's *oeuvre* is his continuous publication of important hoards. Here his articles are far too numerous to list, and has been added to just this year with another important publication in the SNR. But his publications are never confined to a simple listing; always there is a thorough analysis of some coinage of Sicily, Greece, or Asia Minor.

His thesis publication on the chronology of Hellenistic coinages, is a book length illustration of this approach. Another exemplary case is Christof's authoritative treatment of the Achaean League coinage or, as one scholar has dubbed it, 'the Boehringer Revolution'. Arguing from the clear evidence of two hoards (Poggio Picenze and Caserta) he pointed out that the obvious conclusion to be drawn from them was that the coinage of the Achaean League extended far beyond the



traditional end date assigned to it in 146 BC. His position has been met with some trenchant and emotional opposition, but there can be little doubt that, if we leave our preconceptions at the door and allow the hoard evidence to speak for itself, he was absolutely right. As a result we must rethink our assumptions about the nature of the economy in, and roman rule of, the province of Achaia.

Hoards aside, Christof Boehringer worked on the publication of a substantial part of the Dewing Collection by the ANS, a contribution for which we will always be grateful, and co-authored the *Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum* volume devoted to the von Post collection. He has also published on subjects as varied coinages of Alexander the Great, Caria, the Celts and Byzantium. His die-studies on Leontini and Katana are expected to appear soon. But what Christof Boehringer has already published has stood the test of time.

Until his retirement he was Curator in the University Museum Göttingen where he was in charge of antiquities, coins, casts, and the library, and I know takes pride in the work he has done to expand the collections there. As President of the *Centro Internazionale di Studi Numismatici* in Italy, he oversaw the annual publication of *Annali* and organized many congresses dedicated to important subjects in south Italian and Sicilian numismatics. Most were promptly published and serve as an important source for research in this field.

Always ready to help other scholars, his impact on the field also extends far beyond what we can read in the numismatic and library catalogues. He encouraged this younger scholar only yesterday, but reassured him that he believed most of what I had written in a recent article.

After the presentation of the Huntington Medal, Dr. Boehringer presented a lecture about Sicilian numismatics at the end of the fifth century B.C. Based on epigraphic, stylistic and historical evidence, he gave a concise overview of the Greek coinages of Sicily, with emphasis on Syracuse, at the end of the fifth century B.C.

#### 2011 Mark M. Salton Memorial Lecture

The annual Mark M. Salton Memorial Lecture was delivered by Dr. Ira Rezak on May 10, 2011. In the presence of Mrs. Lottie Salton and over 40 ANS members, Dr. Rezak spoke about Jerusalem and its various symbols in art and historical objects. Sacred to the three great religions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam, various symbols have been associated with the city over thousands of years.



*Brigitte Bedos-Rezak, Lottie Salton, and Ira Rezak*

Dr. Rezak, a Fellow and donor of the ANS, was a long-term friend of Mark Salton. Mark Salton, in whose memory the lecture is held, was born into a prominent numismatic family in Frankfurt a.M. in Germany in 1914. His father, Felix Schlessinger, ran one of Europe's leading coin businesses. Unlike his parents, who were murdered at Auschwitz, Mark Salton survived years of the holocaust and of the second world war as a member of the resistance. He emigrated to America in 1946 where he met his future wife Lottie, who herself survived the holocaust. Mark Salton was one of the most knowledgeable numismatic collectors and scholars, covering all objects from the ancient world to the 19th century. He was very involved in various ANS activities; he and his wife donated many important objects to the collections. He died on New Year's Eve of 2005. The lecture in his memory is held annually by a scholar to commemorate his scholarly approach, breadth of interest and enthusiasm for numismatics.



# Obituaries

## F. Gordon Frost, 1935 - 2011



*Gordon Frost*

The numismatic fraternity lost a wonderful friend this winter (March 2) with the passing of Fredric Gordon Frost. Gordon (as he usually chose to be called by his coin-collecting friends and colleagues—he was also generally called Fred, or even Freddie, by his family and some of his friends in other fields) loved learning, books and anything connected in some way to the written word as well as numismatics.

But what is more, he took a delight in sharing his bibliophile knowledge with all those around him, both entertaining and inspiring others with his passion.

There were multiple sides to Gordon's personality. Born a Gemini (May 30), Gordon enjoyed observing that he was, indeed, at least two people to begin with. Although he may not have always suffered fools gladly, he was a man of compassion and caring, open toward those in distress or in need. When I fell ill for several months in 2009, my friend Gordon faithfully called me at the end of each week just to chat, fill me in on numismatological occurrences, and cheer me with his wry sense of humor.

In the midst of the Great Depression, Gordon's mother, Frances, died of malnutrition and pneumonia shortly after his birth. Unable to care for his child, Gordon's father placed him in an orphanage, followed by foster care, where his passion for books originated as escape from life's griefs and difficulties. Gordon particularly felt the loss of the mother he never knew, and pondered her sacrifice. But out of sadness, he built a sense of reflection and good will, never ceasing to be surprised by life's abounding absurdities.

Eventually, a kindly foster family, the Kaplans, took him in and gave him the confidence of an unconditional love to carry him forward. Gordon combined caring and nurturing with a philosophical awareness of inequities and want. His reading, and vicarious life

in the world of books, became not merely solace but joy, a joy cultivated through his intellectual curiosity. After graduating from Forest Hills High School, in Queens, New York, in 1953, Gordon commenced his higher education at Queens College, then joined the army (1955-1958), and later the Air Force (Strategic Air Command, 1958-1962).

Gordon served for seven years, making effective use of his enlistments to obtain educational and cultural experiences, including obtaining his degree in economics and history at the University of Omaha, in 1962. Gordon relished deployment in Germany, where he learned the language and took advantage of his situation to travel extensively, in England, France, Denmark and North Africa. During the period of his military duty, Gordon developed passions for music and opera, and began an interest in the currencies of the countries he had a chance to visit. Later, he combined numismatics with the passion for books that continued for the rest of his life.

From the late 1970s, Gordon became a specialist dealer as well as a collector in numismatic literature. For me and for many others, he scouted out references in sometimes arcane areas of interest, always passing them along to appreciative buyers as reasonably as possible. Examining, handling (with great care), and discussing these works delighted him; he could recall both the appearance and the content of nearly any book he had encountered, and his retentive mind was his filing system!

Following his time in the military, Gordon held several positions with various State of New York Civil Service agencies, as a job counselor, occupational analyst, and human resource trainer—always in roles of encouraging others to expand their opportunities and expectations. He married his devoted wife, Rosalie, March 20, 1966, and resided in their book-filled home in Queens, not far from where he had grown up or from where he was buried.

In his time away from the workplace, Gordon participated in a number of organizations where he shared his specialized knowledge with receptive, like-minded men and women. He was the current President of the Bronx Coin Club, and was an active member of the American



Numismatic Society, the New York Numismatic Club, the Westchester Coin Club, the Flushing Coin Club and the Sunken Treasure Collectors Club. At his death, Gordon left behind him a lengthy, incomplete book on the literature dealing with sunken treasures and a long list of family and friends who miss him dearly. Gordon used to say that there are few ills that cannot be helped by a good piece of chocolate—some of which he made sure to bring along to share with his friends at meetings—so friends everywhere may do well do savor a bite in his honor!



*Stephen L. Tanenbaum, courtesy of the Tanenbaum family*

### **Stephen L. Tanenbaum**

The study of numismatic Americana has lost one of its leading lights. Stephen L. Tanenbaum was a numismatist who had vast knowledge in a number of specialized areas of the field, and was particularly widely known and respected for his involvement with Civil War tokens. He was tragically run down near his Brooklyn home on

February 11 by a homicidal maniac fleeing the scene of a crime, and died a short time later as a result of his injuries (“collateral damage,” in the macabre military parlance).

Steve was an honored, long-time member of the American Numismatic Society who frequently told me of his desire and expectation to devote time for working with the Society’s outstanding collections in his favorite areas. He was especially active with the Civil War Token Society, had been elected to two eight year terms on its Board of Governors, served as Vice President from 2004 until the time of his death, and had been re-elected to serve for the 2011-2012 term. He was the CWTS’s verification officer for the past ten years, and was also the head of its Fall of Fame medal program. (Steve had been named himself to the CWTS Hall of Fame in 2004.) At the time of his untimely death, Steve probably held the greatest personal collection of many kinds of his beloved American tokens. He had also amassed a fine library, including nineteenth century business directories, for his researches.

Born in the Bronx and raised in nearby White Plains, New York, Steve was a graduate in Material Sciences from Cornell University, where he also obtained his M.S. degree. He subsequently received an M.B.A. from the Sloan School of Business Administration at the

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (class of 1973). Following his academic career, he worked profitably for the Xerox Corporation in Rochester, New York, as a financial analyst.

From childhood, Steve had a great interest in numismatics--beginning in the 1950s by his going through quantities of change. As his collection grew to vast size and importance, he became a part-time dealer, and in 1978, while continuing his employment with Xerox, Steve formed a partnership with Richard Rossa under the name of Rossa and Tanenbaum—Tokens and Medals. This firm lasted for many years and was augmented, in 1981, by Steve’s full-time commitment when he was laid-off by Xerox during a downsizing event. Most recently, Steve had affiliated with fellow dealers Ernie Latter and Steve Hayden.

Steve was the discoverer of hundreds of new varieties of Civil War tokens as well as the recorder of many previously unknown die states and minting errors. His encyclopedic knowledge was unsurpassed, and was a truly remarkable resource for those of us who called upon him for information and assistance. It was always a pleasure to visit with Steve and to learn from him. His seriousness and his depth of knowledge were profound, yet he could present a chatty and humorous side.

I treasure Steve’s willingness to share. He was of great help when I was preparing my survey of the Civil War collections of the American Numismatic Society (See: *A New Birth of Freedom: The American civil War Collection at the ANS*, American Numismatic Society Magazine, Vol. 4, No. 3, winter 2005, pp. 20-35). When I was curator of the Museum of the American Numismatic Association (1981-2001), Steve took time, at his own expense, to go to Colorado Springs to work with me as a volunteer, to help with the ANA’s massive, partly uncatalogued collections. I welcomed his notations, in his careful, tidy handwriting, as well as his discussions!

Along with other specialists, for some time before his death Steve had been compiling a new, third edition of Civil War Store Cards, the standard catalog by George and Melvin Fuld. He was a co-author, with Steve Hayden and Katherine Jaeger, of *A Guide Book of United States Tokens and Medals*. He will certainly be sorely missed by many of us who shared his love for those wonderful little pieces of history.

Source: Gilkes, Paul. Exonumia dealer Stephen Tanenbaum victim in NYC spree: Dies after being struck by car driven by suspect in four murders, *Coin World*, March 7, 2011, p. 5f

—Robert Wilson Hoge



# ANS Bookshelf

## Andrew Meadows

Once more we have two exciting new ANS publications to announce. The first contains a major re-evaluation of the coinage of ancient Arabia: *Coinage of the Caravan Kingdoms—Studies in the Monetization of Ancient Arabia* by Martin Huth and Peter van Alfen (Numismatic Studies No. 25). At a time when the modern countries of this part of the world are constantly in the news, this new book offers the opportunity to explore the rich numismatic past of the region.

In addition to a catalogue and updated typologies of Philistian, Nabataean, Minaean, Qatabanian, Sabaeen, Himyarite, and Gerrhean coinages, among others, and die studies of the owl and Alexander imitations, this volume features essays written by numismatists, archaeologists, and epigraphists that situate the coins within their political, social, and economic contexts. It becomes quite clear that the beginnings of coinage in Arabia followed two very distinct traditions. The first stretched along a line running from Gaza on the Mediterranean coast to the Hadhramawt on the Arabian Sea, in modern Yemen. The other, in eastern Arabia, ran along the Persian Gulf coast from the mouth of the Euphrates to the Oman peninsula.

Accompanying this rich series of essays is a wonderful new photographic guide to the coinages discussed, in the form of *Coinage of the Caravan Kingdoms: Ancient Arabian Coins from the Collection of Martin Huth*. (Ancient Coins in North American Collections 10). Built over the last 20 years, the Martin Huth collection of pre-Islamic coins covering all parts of the Arabian Peninsula represents the largest assembly of such material ever put together, exceeding by far the holdings of existing Museum collections. 480 coins are fully described and illustrated on more than 70 plates. A comprehensive epigraphic index lists all inscriptions and monograms found on these intriguing series.

ANS members can order both volumes at [numismatics.org/Store](http://numismatics.org/Store), and save \$120 off the list price for both volumes.

*Coinage of the Caravan Kingdoms - Studies in the Monetization of Ancient Arabia* by Martin Huth and Peter G. van Alfen (Numismatic Studies No. 25, 2010) Hardback

List price: \$250

Member price: \$175

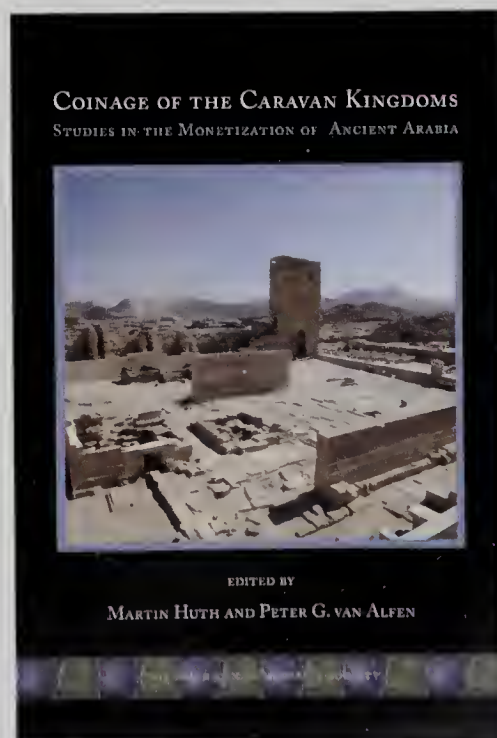
ISBN-13: 978-0-89722-312-6

*Coinage of the Caravan Kingdoms: Ancient Arabian Coins from the Collection of Martin Huth*. (Ancient Coins in North American Collections 10, 2010)

List price: US\$150

Member price: \$105

ISBN-13: 978-0-89722-318-8





# Book Reviews

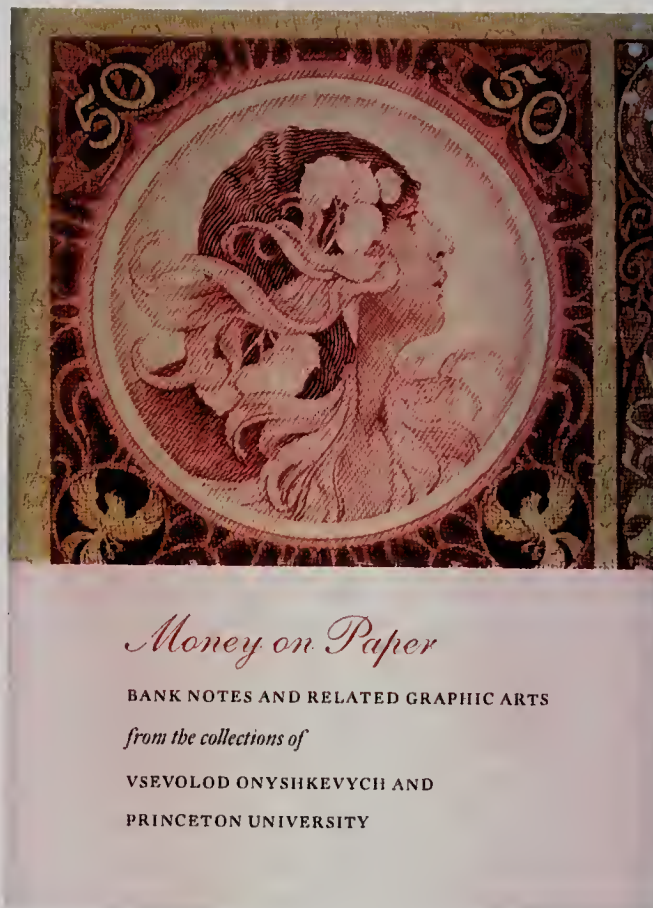
Oliver D. Hoover

Alan Stahl. *Money on Paper. Banknotes and Related Graphic Arts from the Collections of Vsevolod Onyshkevych and Princeton University*. Princeton: Princeton University Library, 2010. ISBN 978-0-07811-054-4. Sb. 78pp. 40 color illustrations. \$40.

The present volume is catalogue produced to accompany an exhibition of 200 banknotes held from 30 August 2010 to 2 January 2011 at the Leonard L. Milberg Gallery for the Graphic Arts in Princeton's Firestone Library. It consists of three introductory essays and a checklist describing the exhibited pieces. The material in the checklist is arranged in a chronological and thematic sequence in order to survey the development of paper money from the introduction of the *Da Ming Xing Bao Chao* (Circulating Treasure Note of the Great Ming) in fourteenth-century China to Europe on the eve of the Euro.

Although the bulk of the exhibition deals with the currency of the United States in the Colonial and Federal periods, a group of eighteenth-century European notes (nos. 6-20) are used to illustrate the sorts of financial and military crises that usually led to the introduction of paper money. Examples range from the notes issued to support the silver-poor economy of Sweden in the early eighteenth century, to the paper used prop up the finances of Louis XIV on the empty expectation of wealth from the Louisiana bubble, to the emergency paper issued by the besieged French forces occupying Mainz in 1793. A paper siege piece produced in Leiden during the city's investment by Spanish forces in 1574 (no. 5) is also included, but one could argue that this is technically an emergency coin rather than a form of paper currency, since its designs were produced by the impression of coining dies rather than a printing process.

The Colonial and early Federal periods in the United States are well represented by fifty pieces (nos. 21-71) arranged in chronological order by artist. The highlights of this group are almost certainly the large selection of notes produced by Benjamin Franklin (nos. 21-44) and the materials related to the John James Audobon's "running grouse" vignette on unissued \$2, \$3, and \$5 notes of the early nineteenth century. Accompanying essays by Francis Musella and Rob-



ert Peck and Eric Newman discuss these pieces in greater detail. Colonial numismatic specialists might take some exception to the introduction to this section, which refers to English coins and "the Mexican dollar" as "the only silver coins that actually circulated in the colonies" (p. 45). Documentary and find evidence makes it very clear that silver coins from Spanish-American mints other than Mexico as well as French and Dutch silver also circulated at various times in the Colonial and early Federal periods of the United States.

The treatment of American paper money in the context of the Civil War (1861-1865) is exceptionally well done. Forty-seven pieces (nos. 72-120) serve to compare and contrast the ideological, technological, and economic outlooks of the Northern and Southern States shortly before and during the conflict. The move towards a Federal currency, dictated by the need to fund the war is illustrated by several notes illegally printed by the National Bank Note Company of New York and issued by the Confederate States of



America in 1861 (nos. 104-112) and by two United States "greenbacks" of 1862 (nos. 118-119). Most of the Confederate notes are endorsed on their backs and one (no. 112) is a contemporary counterfeit. The economic difficulties created by the disappearance of coins from regular circulation in the 1860s are exemplified by a fractional currency shield (no. 120). Such shields were distributed to banks by the U.S. Treasury Department between 1862 and 1875 in order to allow the recognition of the official notes issued by the government to fill the coinage void and curb rampant counterfeiting. The Princeton example is notable for a 50-cent note that has been added to the original set of denominations.

The later nineteenth century is represented by twelve U.S. Federal notes and silver certificates of the 1880s and 1890s (nos. 121-133). Three silver certificates of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing's so-called Educational Series (nos. 125-129) serve to mark the high point in the design and production of American currency. A remarkable group of design sketches and proofs of notes printed by the American Bank Note Company for several Colombian banks in the 1880s and early twentieth century (nos. 134-154) reveals some of the long design and printing process that lies behind a completed note ready for circulation.

The checklist concludes with an eclectic selection of European notes issued between 1918 and 2001 intended to show the variety of designs and artistic influences in the period (nos. 155-200). The notes are grouped by artist and issuing country, but the logic of the arrangement of the several groups is not readily apparent, as it appears to be neither alphabetical, chronological, nor geographical. Included in this final section of the catalogue are notes of Belgium, Czechoslovakia, the Faroe Islands (!), Finland, the Netherlands, and Ukraine.

While the catalogue acts as a guide through the exhibition, three brief essays provide the reader/visitor with deeper insight into some of the material on display. Mark Tomasko's "Banknote Engraving in the United States: A Short Primer" (pp. 3-16) is an excellent introduction to the evolving artistic and mechanical processes, as well as the business history, of

American banknote production in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Reflection on some of the masterful images found on notes in the exhibition makes it impossible to disagree with the author in lamenting the rise of computer design that will ultimately bring "the handwork in picture engraving...[to] the end of the road" (p. 16). Those desiring fuller discussion by Tomasko are directed to *The Feel of Steel: The Art and History of Bank Note Engraving in the United States* (Newton, Pa, 2009), the book from which his essay was abstracted.

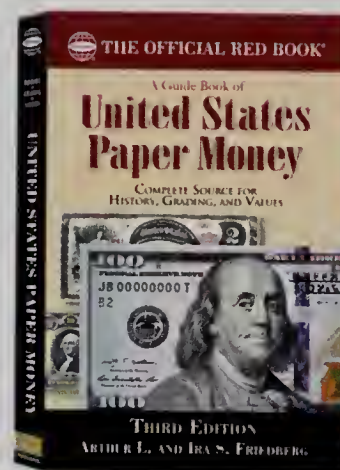
"Benjamin Franklin's Nature Printing on Banknotes" by Francis Musella (pp. 17-25) provides an overview of the brief use of inked leaves to create "nature prints" on the paper money of early America. Such prints served as an anti-counterfeiting device since it was difficult for forgers to duplicate the intricacies of the leaves by hand. Musella, a Princeton freshman, offers a lucid discussion of Franklin's secret "nature printing" process and its later abandonment in the Confederation period, but specialists are not likely to discover here anything not already known from Eric Newman's *The Early Paper Money of America* (5th ed. Iola, WI, 2008). Readers unfamiliar with the historical period and the money, may also be a little confused by the author's introductory remarks, which give the false impression that the British authorities counterfeited colonial American paper money as a regular means of maintaining mercantilist policies (p. 17). Such organized counterfeiting only took place as a form of economic warfare once the American colonies had declared their independence (see E. Newman, "Counterfeit Continental Currency Goes to War," *The Numismatist* (1957): 5-16, 137-147). Some citation supporting the statement that white wampum dyed with indigo was traded to Indians at inflated value (p. 17) might also have been in order. One would have thought that the relatively high cost of indigo would have prohibited its use to counterfeit wampum. Nevertheless, the essay is well illustrated by seven exemplary notes in the Princeton University Numismatic Collection.

The third essay is an abridged version of "Discovered! The First Engraving of an Audobon Bird" by Robert McCracken Peck and Eric P. Newman (pp. 27-38), which appeared very recently in the *Journal*



of the *Early Republic* 30 (Fall 2010): 443-461. Here the authors recount the past difficulties that researchers have had in locating John James Audobon's engraving of a grouse reportedly sold to Gideon Fairman in 1824 for use as a vignette on a New Jersey banknote. As no such note is known, the authors conclude that the grouse in question appears on a sample sheet produced by the printing firm of Fairman, Draper, Underwood & Co. and on preliminary designs for unissued notes of the 1830s and 1840s. This well-reasoned conclusion raises the problem that while no issued note survives with his grouse engraving, Audobon seems to have had a note with the vignette to show English patrons in 1826. The authors try to solve this difficulty by proposing that either Audobon had only a proof note that ultimately failed to capture the interest of the banks, or, perhaps somewhat less plausibly, that notes bearing his grouse were issued but recalled and completely destroyed in the aftermath of a rash of bill alterations in 1826-1827. Besides the discovery of the engraving itself, it is also notable that the bird in question turns out to be an extinct sub-species of the pinnated grouse (*Tympanuchus cupido*). Newman reports that there may still be more to come on the story of Audobon's grouse.

*Money on Paper* serves as an attractive memento of an interesting exhibition.



Arthur L. and Ira S. Friedberg. *A Guide Book of United States Paper Money*. Third edition. Atlanta, GA: Whitman Publishing, 2011. ISBN 0794832407. Sb. 416pp. Color illus. throughout. \$24.95.

The present volume is the latest update to the popular reference for United States currency in the Whitman Official Red Book series. Like the second edition published in 2008, *A Guide Book of United States Paper Money* is essentially a distillation of the Friedbergs' comprehensive *Paper Money of the United States*, which was published in its nineteenth edition in 2010. Also like the second edition, the third edition of the *Guide Book* features excellent full-color illustrations and an introduction by David L. Ganz.

Ganz' introduction (pp. 1-22) is a wonderful anecdotal account of the evolution of Federal paper money combined with an arsenal of information needed by collectors in order to understand and preserve their collections.

The main catalogue (pp. 23-345) includes all United States notes from the initial introduction of the "green-back" in 1862 as a means of financing the Union cause during the Civil War (1861-1865) to the latest 2009 Federal Reserve Notes with added color. Supplementary sections also list and illustrate the Treasury Notes used to finance the War of 1812, Federal fractional currency issued between 1863 and 1876 (including the shields issued as a means of counterfeit detection), and the emergency encased postage stamp currency that preceded it in 1862 (pp. 346-379). A final section details a variety of potential errors known to occur in the production of U.S. paper money (pp. 380-388).

Although it has now become customary to include the encased postage stamps in treatments of United States paper money, one might argue that they are more appropriately classed as a form of private token, like the contemporary Civil War tokens that circulated alongside them. While it is true that the Bureau of Engraving and Printing was responsible for both the production of paper currency and of postage stamps, individuals and



private banks only impressed the latter into service as circulating money out of necessity. The encased postage stamps owed their existence to this need and to the ingenuity of John Gault, who turned them into virtual tokens through the addition of a coin-like brass container suitable for business advertisements.

Each major denomination and supplemental section receives a brief historical and numismatic introduction. Perhaps the most remarkable of these is the introduction to \$10,000 notes, where it is revealed that the majority of the 200 pieces still outstanding came onto the market in the early twenty-first century, when they were removed from a casino display in Las Vegas as a cost-cutting measure.

The notes are catalogued by denomination and date variety. A color illustration and brief description terms of distinctive vignettes precedes each group of catalogue entries. These consist of a Friedberg reference number (also Hodder-Bowers number for the encased postage stamps), signature and seal varieties, as well as values for five grades of preservation (VG-8, F-12, VF-20, EF-40, and Unc-63). For Federal Reserve Notes, the authors also list the known issuing banks. At the time of printing, this information was not yet known for the 2009 \$100 as they were scheduled for release on February 10, 2011. The issuing banks may remain unknown for some time still, as "a problem with sporadic creasing of the paper during printing" has delayed production. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing has not yet provided a new projected release date.

Three appendices (pp. 389-400) provide the precise dates of tenure for signing Registers and Treasurers of the United States from 1861 to 2011, Friedberg numbers by page, and a listing of modern uncut currency sheets sold by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing from 1981 to the present. The book concludes with a glossary of technical and slang terms related to the production and circulation of United States currency, as well as a brief bibliography (pp. 401-407).

*A Guide Book of United States Paper Money* represents another high-quality and affordable addition to the Whitman's expanding and frequently updated stable of Red Book Guides.



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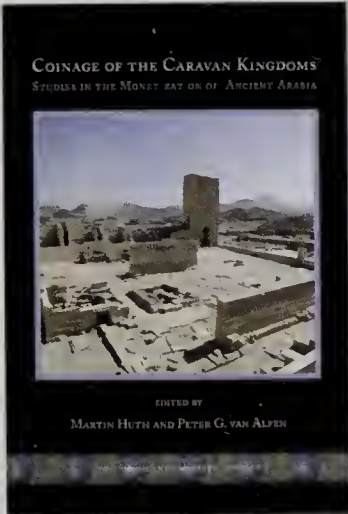
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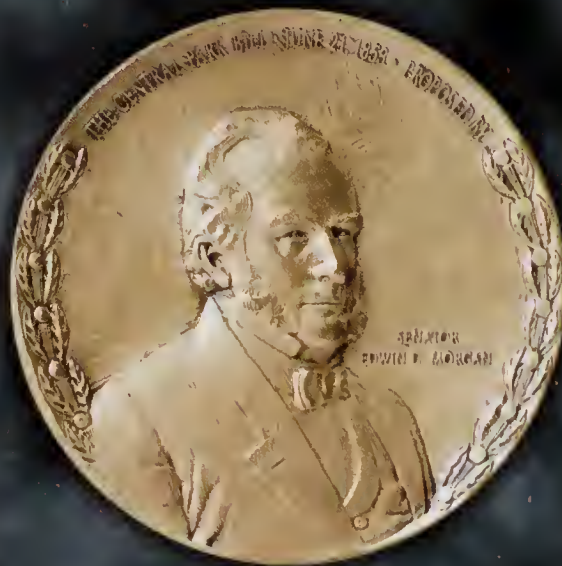


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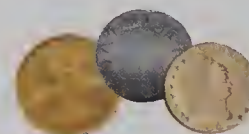
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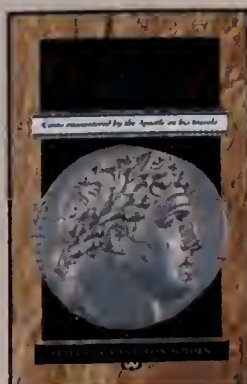
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